

THE CORD

The tie that binds Wilfrid Laurier University since 1926

Volume 51, Issue 5

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thecord.ca



Head Icebreakers celebrate during the closing ceremonies of O-Week at University Stadium on Sept. 11 after a day of Shinerama.

NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Breaking down O-Week

BREE MANTHA
STAFF WRITER

The longstanding tradition of Orientation Week's On-Campus Celebration went off without a hitch again this year.

Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) president Kyle Walker described the Tuesday night event as highly successful.

There were very few disruptions during the event. Walker estimated that 90 per cent of students who were asked to leave the celebration were turned away at the entrance, whether it was due to visible intoxication, underage drinking or possessing alcohol.

More severe incidents resulted in O-Week bracelets being cut, with those students facing a meeting with Walker.

"A lot of wristbands weren't cut necessarily because students were intoxicated," Walker explained, "It was because [...] they showed up at the main doors with alcohol with them."

More Orientation

- SBE O-Day
- Academic sessions
- Shinerama results

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"Orientation Week is one of those things that's only run for a week but is on everyone's minds throughout the entire year."

—Kyle Walker, WLUSU President

Hawks continue hot start

Laurier soccer teams move to 3-0 with wins over McMaster and Guelph; rookie Mithrush second in provincial scoring

JAMIE NEUGEBAUER
STAFF WRITER

Both of the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks soccer teams remained undefeated over the weekend, taking down the McMaster Marauders and Guelph Gryphons to improve to 3-0 on the season.

Second half strikes from Amanda Mithrush and Sadie Anderson were plenty for the women's team to power past the visiting Gryphons by a score of 2-0 on Sunday afternoon. It truly was a dominant performance, with the purple and gold claiming possession for a large majority of the match.

Veteran midfielder Heather Malizia gave the visitors fits all game, and it was her sublime cross in the 51st minute that was converted by rookie phenom Mithrush. The finish was the Thunder Bay native's third tally in as many games – good enough for second in the province.

Veteran fullback Anderson would score on a penalty in the 63rd

minute to give the Hawks an insurance goal.

"It is a fair result for us," commented Laurier head coach Barry MacLean. "We were definitely the dominant side today."

Fourth-year holding midfielder Tania Pedron was remarkable all weekend for the Hawks, controlling the play with her calmness, composure and intelligent distribution.

On both goals, it was her initial balls up the pitch that were the catalysts.

"She is our team leader," MacLean said concerning Pedron. "She can play on the ball, she is just a high-end player."

The victory gives the Hawks a deserved record of three wins in three matches after dropping McMaster 3-2 in Hamilton on Saturday.

By outscoring the opposition by a count of 8-3 in only three contests, the purple and gold have sent a clear message that they intend to atone for their Ontario University Athletics (OUA) semi-final exit last

“
It's a fair result for us,
we were definitely the
dominant side today.”

—Barry MacLean, head coach

season.

On the men's side, the Hawks barely squeaked by the Gryphons on Sunday with an uninspired and scrappy 1-0 victory.

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NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

News Director Linda Givetash speaks to your mayoral candidates

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Inside

Down With Webster plays in the Turret for O-Week

The Toronto band speaks with the Cord after an energetic performance during on-campus party.

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Light rail transit funding pledged for Waterloo

Both levels of government provide the region with over \$500 million for new transit system.

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Something to fall back on

Features Editor Laura Sedgwick gives insight about planning for life's mishaps.

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Hawks improve to 1-2

Football team records first win of season, rolling over U of T 37-6.

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Editor's Choice

"Polaris, politics and artistic merit"

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Follow the KW elections on Twitter

#voteKW

Editor's Choice Online
Mayoral candidate videos

thecord.ca/waterlooelection

Editor-in-Chief Alanna Wallace • awallace@thecord.ca

Radiolaurier Cord Roundtable

www.radiolaurier.com

Tune in to the Cord Roundtable Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at radiolaurier.com to hear editors comment on stories and pieces they have written and edited in the issue published that day.

This week...

Keep up-to-date

Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak discusses this week's section including O-Week pieces and proposals put forward by WLUSU president Kyle Walker... blah blah blah.

Get to know your candidates

News Director Linda Givetash will stop by to discuss her interviews with Waterloo's mayoral candidates. Pieces of the recorded interviews will be played.

NFL sports preview

Sports Editor Justin Fauteux and Graphics Editor Wade Thompson give predictions for this year's American football season.

CORRECTION

Student life: A balancing act

In an article printed in the Sept. 6 issue of the Cord it was printed that the Writing Centre is located in the library when their location has been changed to the Dr. Alvin Woods Building (DAWB) in room 1-102 on the main floor. The Writing Centre offers drop-in hours, workshops, individual appointments as well as resources on writing for all students. The students who work at the Writing Centre are paid upper-year students who undergo extensive training prior to working with students. The Cord apologizes for this error.

This Week in quotes

“

If you take a space like the dining hall, that's not meant for studying, that's meant for eating.”

—Kyle Walker, WLUSU president on lack of study space on campus



“There will be a regional contribution as well. I mean we weren't getting this free — it's not like getting a transit system for free, so we have to take a look at what's affordable.”

—Ken Seiling, Waterloo Regional Chair

“What we try to do as a professional association is herd cats. We try to keep all these people working and communicating with each other and provide venues where we can do those sorts of things.”

—Alistair Edgar explaining the operations of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS)

“The end goal is that the Students' Union has knowledge of all the information that's going out because, as you know, the Students' Union is a very deep organization and sometimes doesn't always know what everybody is doing.”

—Phil Champagne describing the depth and intricacy of WLUSU

“I'm really tired of the Students' Union launching things that aren't working one hundred per cent properly.”

—Phil Champagne, WLUSU Marketing and Events Manager on the history of past union projects

“I really hope that people aren't just here because they think we're good looking 'cause that would suck.”

—Cam Hunter, Down With Webster

“I'd like to be a lawyer.”

—Karkwa drummer Stéphane Bergeron on employment if he wasn't in a band

Vocal Cord

Did you find the O-Week academic sessions useful?



“They were really helpful. The person who did them was my professor for my first-year course, so I got to see what she was like.”

—Amie Borys, first-year communication studies



“They were useful because they gave me a good idea of what to expect in my first couple days.”

—Brent Goetz, first-year business



“It was okay...not the best.”

—Jackie Xu, first-year business



“Useful, but they were repetitive. It helped for one session, but you didn't need to go to three of them.”

—Tashinga Chauma, first-year psychology

Compiled by Justin Fauteux
Photos by Nick Lachance



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

This week around Laurier: O-Week

Check out the gallery at thecord.ca

THE CORD

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Colophon

The Cord is the official student newspaper of the Wilfrid Laurier University community.

Started in 1926 as the College Cord, The Cord is an editorially independent newspaper published by Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications. Waterloo: a corporation without share capital. WLUSU is governed by its board of directors.



Opinions expressed within The Cord are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial board. The Cord, WLUSU, WLUSU or CanWeb Printing Inc.

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Campus Plan is The Cord's national advertising agency.

Preamble to The Cord constitution

The Cord will keep faith with its readers by presenting news and expressions of opinions comprehensively, accurately and fairly. The Cord believes in a balanced and impartial presentation of all relevant facts in a news report, and of all substantial opinions in a matter of controversy.

The staff of The Cord shall uphold all commonly held ethical conventions of journalism. When in error of commission or of omission has occurred, that error shall be acknowledged promptly. When statements are made that are critical of an individual or an organization, we shall give those affected the opportunity to reply at the earliest time possible. Ethical journalism requires impartiality and consequently avoidance of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest will be sought by all staff.

The only limits of any newspaper are those of the world around it, and so The Cord will attempt to cover its world with a special focus on Wilfrid Laurier University and the community of Kitchener-Waterloo and with a special eye to the concerns of the students of Wilfrid Laurier University. Ultimately, The Cord will be bound by neither philosophy nor geography in its mandate.

The Cord has an obligation to foster freedom of the press and freedom of speech. This obligation is best fulfilled when debate and dissent are encouraged, both in the internal workings of the paper and through The Cord's contact with the student body.

The Cord will always attempt to do what is right, with less of neither objectivity, nor neutrality. The purpose of the student press is to act as an agent of social awareness and so shall conduct the affairs of our newspaper.

Quote of the week:
“Are those your tattoos, because you can dig them in my hummus if you want.”
—Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak offering his hummus to Editor-in-Chief Alanna Wallace

NEWS

News Director Linda Givetash • lgivetash@thecord.ca

First-years reminded of responsibility

Involvement stressed at SBE orientation day

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Sunday of Orientation Week gathered students from the Wilfrid Laurier School of Business and Economics (SBE) together for the faculty's annual O-Day, a chance for students to experience SBE-specific programming and opportunities for involvement.

Held in the Schlegel Centre and the Waterloo Inn, students attended a luncheon featuring a talk by Procter and Gamble Canada president and Laurier business graduate Tim Penner. The overwhelming theme of the day, which featured a distinct get-involved fair for business and economics students, was taking advantage of opportunities for involvement on campus from the absolute beginning of students' time at university.

"When you're only starting classes tomorrow graduation seems like a really long time away," Penner told the over 550 students assembled. "And it is. You've got time, I just encourage you to use it very, very wisely."

He impressed upon students the importance of whatever experience they can gather during that time, especially in campus clubs and organizations. "It's going to be those experiences that differentiate you relative to the 50,000 business and public administration students in Canada," he said.

"Someone that was an achiever on the Laurier campus will continue to be an achiever after they graduate and join the business world," he explained. "You can predict mediocrity and you can predict achievement,



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER
Procter and Gamble president Tim Penner speaks to SBE's O-Day.

and no company is looking for mediocre people, we've all got enough of those already."

Penner's words resounded with students according to School of Business and Economics Students' Society (SBESS) president Aneesh Lal. "The O-Day got involved fair told us that [first-years] were receptive to that message," he said. "The fact that it was packed for two hours and not just people writing down names but engaging in dialogue all over said something."

The day has been in the planning stages since May, according to Lal, who spoke to the reasoning behind a separate orientation and Get-Involved fair for SBE students.

"People always want to know about their own faculty and O-Week is a very general way to see how great Laurier is, but SBE-specific O-Day on the Sunday is designed so our students get the extra know-how of how things work at SBE."

After his speech, Penner spoke to the Cord about why he felt it is

important to reach incoming students and emphasize involvement from day one. "I've spoken on campus several times over the last several years but I've never been asked to speak to the introductory group before," he said. "Frankly, as we interview there's a lot of people who you realize only started to get involved on campus in their third year when they're sort of sprinting for the finish line and it's too late."

Penner made clear the position students are in with regards to involvement opportunities on this campus specifically, the all-important effort initially that can lead to dividends in the future. "I think what separates Laurier from many other campuses is the richness of opportunities for leadership roles," he said. "There are more leadership opportunities for students at Laurier than just about any other business school that I know of."

"To come to Laurier and not capitalize on that is a tremendous missed opportunity."

Academic Sessions for incoming Arts, Science and SBE students made mandatory this year

ELIZABETH BATE
STAFF WRITER

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

While classes at Laurier didn't officially begin until Sept. 13, participants in orientation activities were given a pause to examine the more academic side of university life.

Academic sessions have been a growing part of the O-Week schedule for the last five years, according to Michael Imort, dean of the faculty of arts; however, this year was the first year these sessions were mandatory.

The implementation of the sessions is a step in the right direction, he said. "It is a beginning; it is not nearly enough from our perspective."

"If you look at the Orientation Week," he elaborated, "what we have is barely a day to prepare students for the academic challenges and transitions ahead of them."

Imort talked about a trend of decline in students' grade point averages (GPAs) in his academic session.

"We don't care about your intelligence, we care about your performance," he told the first-years assembled, also noting that, "Approximately three out of ten students don't graduate with the honours designation."

Markus Poetzsch, the English undergraduate advisor, also spoke with students during Friday's sessions emphasizing the resources available if some feel it hard to maintain good academic standing.

"Talk to your professors," he said

repeatedly, encouraging students to ask for help.

Neither Imort nor Poetzsch professed to know exactly why undergraduate grades are trending downwards, but Poetzsch suspected an inability to maintain balance as one factor.

He told students his position increasingly means taking on the role of career and guidance counselor, advising students about more than just their courses and timetables.

According to Poetzsch, he has seen more and more burnt-out students in his office, often with multiple jobs in addition to full-time studies.

"It seems to be the normative," he said. "It may have something to do with tuition prices."

Imort pointed to a lack of preparedness among incoming students as another trend.

"What we're faced with in the last few years [are] students who underestimate what is required," he explained. "The transition is too dramatic for them; they are not prepared for the workload, for the stress."

He said that these topics need to be impressed upon and discussed among first-years, though he lamented, "That takes time, small workshops rather than a large lecture hall where I stand for forty-five minutes and talk about it."

In the aftermath of the sessions, Imort said feedback from students was rare, however, those he did hear from were positive about the experience.

"I think the students are better off for it."

Few incidents reported at on-campus party

—cover

According to Walker, a wristband needed to be cut without exception in those situations due to the danger of both WLUSU and the school losing their liquor licenses.

Despite the fact that wristbands were cut, Walker reported that the number of offenders was on par with last year. On top of that, all but three wristbands were given back.

"There were just three incidents where the students were very aggressive with security," he noted. "We're not going to give you your wristband back in that situation."

Walker was impressed that students were able to uphold Laurier's reputation within the community. With Waterloo Regional Police on duty and bylaw informed of the celebration, WLUSU was able to shut the event down at 1 a.m. without a single noise complaint.

During the course of the night, Emergency Response Team was dispatched a total of five times and Special Constable Services (SCS) were dispatched six times.

One of the more urgent medical emergencies occurred in the Turret, where two students passed out, allegedly from heat exhaustion. However, rumours of students

being carried out on stretchers were exaggerated.

Walker emphasized that despite concerns about the heat, the Turret never exceeded capacity and was in fact below capacity for most of the night.

"It was pretty hot up there," Walker admitted, but he was proud of the actions that were taken by SCS and the O-Week volunteers. SCS opened the doors to the outdoor area, and volunteers took action by bringing up thirty cases of water bottles to distribute to students.

Though SCS was not dispatched at all during the 2009 celebration, Operations Manager Chris Hancock maintains that officers were not very busy at all Tuesday and felt that things went smoothly.

Foot Patrol had an active night. "We had about 32 volunteers working for the night, including some Breakers with previous Foot experience, and every O-Week volunteer on Foot," said Ashley Madill-Tossounian, the Foot Patrol coordinator.

Madill-Tossounian said it was hard to keep track of exactly how many walks the service performed that night because many did not call to be met and escorted home,



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER
Students wave their arms and lift others into the air during the "on-campus celebration" held the second night of Orientation Week.

However, it was determined that Foot performed 200 walks and rides during the celebration — nearly twice as many as last year's event, where 113 individuals were walked and driven.

Madill-Tossounian was pleasantly surprised at how few of those Foot Patrol encountered were visibly intoxicated. "There are always going

to be students who want to break the rules," she noted.

On-Campus Celebration had recently changed monikers after being known as "On-Campus Party" in previous years.

With WLUSU's new "learning outcomes" and the attempt to shift the focus away from O-Week revelry, the name change seemed fitting.

Shinerama results

\$121,485

Unofficial total raised during Laurier's Shinerama 2010, \$10,000 more than last year

\$94,863

Total from Saturday's Shine Day alone

\$20.6m

Amount raised for Cystic Fibrosis by all Shinerama events nationally since 1964

"Foundation policy is that all funds go to research and care. We have fifty chapters but most of the money will stay locally so it helps those in your area." —Tracey Adams, special events manager, Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

CAMPUS

Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak • mlakusiak@thecord.ca

WLU centre makes strides

OLIVIA NIGHTINGALE
STAFF WRITER

According to the Parkinson Society of Canada, nearly 100,000 Canadians currently live with the debilitating neurodegenerative disease. This number does not take into account the thousands of Canadians who suffer from other neurodegenerative diseases and movement disorders.

Most who suffer from Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders struggle to find suitable treatment that can help to ease the severity of their symptoms. Despite extensive research, little has been discovered about how to curb the effects of neurodegenerative and movement disorders.

Since it was established in 2007, the Laurier Movement Disorder Research and Rehabilitation Centre (MDRC) has been on the cutting edge of movement disorder and Parkinson's research and treatment, gaining both local and international recognition.

The MDRC, which operates out of Wilfrid Laurier University's Northdale Campus, offers assessment and treatment for patients ranging in age from their early twenties to geriatric patients.

Director of the centre Dr. Quincy Almeida explained that unlike other movement disorder facilities, at the MDRC researchers "aim to understand the disease first then proceed

to an appropriate treatment."

Every room in the centre is utilized to assess the various symptoms of neurodegenerative illnesses including speech, balance and cognitive skills. This, in turn, allows the staff to isolate specific issues that must be addressed and through the use of state of the art equipment attempt to reduce the effects of their symptoms.

The centre boasts a large staff comprised of six faculty members, 15 Laurier graduate students and 150 Laurier undergraduate students. Dr. Almeida credits the astonishing success of the program to the Laurier students who work there. "The centre would not run without them," he said.

Trish Knobl, a second-year master's student who works at the MDRC began volunteering there early in her undergraduate degree at Laurier.

"Within the MDRC it's not just the exercise programs that are going on, you have a lot of research going on behind the scenes as well," she said.

She added, "I love the interaction with the patients."

"You get to know the patients really well and you get to help them progress through the exercises, which is great because you get to see the benefits and they're so grateful that you're able to help them. It's just a really rewarding experience."

It was, in fact, a WLU undergraduate student's thesis that provided a breakthrough in early detection methods for Parkinson's disease. Upon further testing of the ideas presented in the thesis, it was discovered that the monitoring of speech is an incredibly useful tool in the diagnosis and treatment processes.

The MDRC has thrived as a result of such active student participation. Dr. Almeida explained, "This kind of hands-on learning is invaluable. Students take away so much from it."

The ongoing success of The Movement Disorders Research and Rehabilitation Centre has no signs of slowing down. Starting next Monday, Sept. 20, the Centre will begin a new rehabilitation program with 200 Parkinson's patients. The program will look to curbing the progression of the disease using new treatment methods. Almeida is optimistic about the future of the MDRC.

"The time is right for Laurier and for this program," he said.

"I feel like it's almost defined my experience at Laurier," Knobl said of her time at the MDRC, especially dealing directly with patients.

"Getting so much experience from the MDRC has really opened my eyes to what I want to do in the future."

—With files from Mike Lakusiak



MEGAN CHERNIAK PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER
MDRC director Dr. Quincy Almeida poses alongside some of the centre's equipment used for Parkinson's research and treatment.

Alcohol: the most commonly used date rape drug.

A person who is incapacitated by alcohol cannot consent to sex.

Targeting someone who is drunk
or feeding someone drinks
with the intent of getting them
too drunk to say "no"
is pre-meditated sexual assault.

This message is brought to you by:

WLU
WOMEN'S
CENTRE

New name coming soon!
Find out why at
mylaurier.ca/womens-centre

Social media hire

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

The Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) has created a new position in the organization to correspond with an increased focus on digital promotion to students. The position of social media coordinator is meant to create a structure for all of WLUSU's operations including its clubs' utilization of social media.

Paula Millar, a fifth-year communications and global studies major has been hired for the role. She will oversee use of tools including Twitter, Facebook and the union's forthcoming smartphone application as well as to some extent the new digital screens and signage installed on campus.

"The idea is to have someone who can coordinate all the social media that the students' union has," said Phil Champagne, WLUSU marketing and communications manager who added the aim of the role is twofold, ensuring the accuracy of information and helping to develop plans for how various WLUSU departments will utilize social media.

WLUSU president Kyle Walker emphasized the role social media will play in promotions and various aspects of union operations in the future.

"Over the course of the summer we've really changed direction in terms of how we're connecting with students. We're really trying to go to where students are rather than having them come to us," he explained.

"We invested a lot of money in the website and I don't think, to be honest, that a lot of students are that interested in having to go and seek out information," said Walker.

"We need to do a better job of telling students what we're doing and giving the information to them where they are."

Champagne noted that the position was first discussed in the spring



FILE PHOTO
WLUSU coordinator Paula Millar.

and interviews took place in June.

"It will very much be a pioneering year trying to figure out what we need that position to be," Champagne said, leading into why Millar was ultimately hired.

"I think she's got the tools to be that person to help us basically mold that position to what it's going to be for years to come."

Until August Millar was The Cord's Local and National editor. She resigned to take the social media coordinator position and as yet no one has been rehired to head the section.

Despite repeated requests for an interview before the print deadline, Millar refused to comment.

"It definitely crossed our minds," Champagne said when asked if the implications of Millar leaving Student Publications for WLUSU were considered in the hiring process.

"We were hoping that her relationship with [Publications] would be strong enough that it wouldn't end up as awkward as it appears to be heading. Personally, I viewed it as a potential bridge between the two."

"I'll encourage her and work with her and Pam Blomfield [vice president of public affairs] to try and get it back on course and see if we can't build that relationship," he added. "Hopefully there hasn't been too much damage done."

The cost of the proposed project to keep the library open 24 hours a day for both terms: \$51,021.55

Applying for study time

Proposal would open library 24-hours if funding is secured

LINDA GIVETASH
NEWS DIRECTOR

The Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union (WLUSU) and Graduate Students' Association (GSA) have put forward a proposal to university administration for 24-hour library access.

The proposal was made in light of the Strategic Investment Fund (SIF), which asked members of the university community to submit ideas for funding in order to improve university operations.

Kyle Walker, WLUSU president, explained the \$51,021 cost of the project would support "having students work the [circulation] desk longer on days when it's only open until 8 or 9 [p.m.] and an overnight security cop."

The proposal compared the facility's size and resources to other study spaces on campus. Using the example of the dining hall, Walker explained, "Students will resort [to] there and it's not the best study space because there's no computer outlets, the wireless signal is poor, some nights the lights just go off."

"We need a space the students can go to and rely on and know it's meant for studying," he concluded.

Christinia Landry, president of the GSA, echoed the importance of having reliable study space campus, particularly for graduate students. "The stereotypical graduate student as being a night-hawk is a stereotype for a reason," she said. "A lot of students do thesis writing and that sort of thing during the night."

The resources available at the library were also considered as part of the proposal. In addition to the more obvious resources such as books, computers and group study rooms, Landry pointed out other items that could be used more.

"I know that the library has PhD study rooms and lockable graduate carrels and it would be nice for our membership to be able to access those whenever it is that they are struck with inspiration," she said.

While the argument does stand that the current system of having the library open for 24 hours during the exam periods has only had moderate success, Landry and Walker noted that the period is not as busy for

students as the 12 weeks of classes.

"That's the only period during the year when students don't really, or aren't really inclined to stay up all night because they have no commitments during the day," Walker explained.

Having the library accessible 24 hours a day, according to Landry, also ties in with the university's mission to enhance student experience.

"More research-intensive universities do tend to have 24-hour access to the library," she said. "I know that the university wants to increase the graduate student enrolment so this could be a way ... with respect to interesting students to coming to Laurier with the [university's] commitments to academics."

The deadline for submissions for the SIF was Sept. 14. At the time of print, Ryan Simon, director of budgets and the business office, said that approximately 40 proposals had been received.

Successful proposals, now under review by the university president and vice-presidents, are projected to be announced in October.

News in brief



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Fraternity makes noise on campus for charity

On the first day of classes, in the amphitheatre, the A E Pi fraternity held a rock-a-thon charity drive in support of The Grand River Hospital Foundation and Save a Child's Heart, an Israeli charity that provides heart surgeries for children in need worldwide. "We had five bands come out and we had brothers playing in between bands," A E Pi vice president Phil Jacobson said. After the proceeds of the day were tallied, Jacobson confirmed a total of \$1,600 was raised during the event, which lasted from around 10 a.m. until 6 in the evening.

Laurier Brantford granted additional stimulus funding

On Sept. 14 another round of funding from the federal government was announced in support of Laurier's Brantford campus. Laurier Brantford will receive \$466,000 to enhance facilities as part of Canada's Economic Action Plan, which provided over \$250,000 earlier this summer to the campus for development of athletic facilities. The new funds have been allocated for the installation of video-conferencing technology, technology that could allow the satellite campus to participate in lectures or meetings hosted at Laurier's other campuses.

Blood Clinics scheduled

Laurier has partnered with Canadian Blood Services to hold mobile blood donor clinics on campus Sept. 17 and Jan. 31. The university has pledged to collect at least 300 donations across its four campuses. The university is now a Partner for Life with the organization, joining hundreds of institutions nationwide and will now set pledge goals.

-Compiled by Mike Lakusiak

Prof heads academic association on UN



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR
ACUNS executive director Edgar

MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Wilfrid Laurier University political science professor Alistair Edgar has been appointed for a second time to the position of executive director of the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS). ACUNS is an international professional association of scholars and practitioners that examines the United Nations and the organization's operations and system at large. ACUNS was founded at Dartmouth College in 1987 and currently holds roughly 600 individuals and 51 institutional members in over 50 nations worldwide. It has been hosted at Laurier since 2003.

ACUNS draws together academics to discuss the operations and function of the UN. "It really is a forum for debate and discourse around what is happening on the international stage," explained vice-president: academic and provost Deb MacLachy. "It gives our faculty

members an opportunity to be a part of that dialogue."

According to Edgar ACUNS, rather than functioning as a think tank of likeminded individuals working through a particular perspective, collects those whose opinions oppose to engage in discussion. "We'll have people that are very critical of the UN or this UN or this secretary general or this issue," he said. "We try to keep all these people working and communicating with each other and provide venues where we can do those sorts of things."

While he assesses his job as executive director of the association as "pushing paper around," including fundraising and overseeing ACUNS' publications, Edgar spoke to the impact his involvement has on experiences he brings to his classes. The opportunity to attend conferences with interesting and important international figures has given Edgar a depth of experience to bring to students, though he will only be able to teach a single course each year and

has none this year.

"I was at a conference in Nuremberg, Germany with the international prosecutor for the international criminal court and older guys who'd been lawyers at the Nuremberg tribunals after the Second World War," he gave as one example. "I'd be talking to all of these people, they wouldn't know me from a hole in the ground, but nonetheless I was in that venue and able to talk and listen to those people and I could bring some of those things back to my classes."

Edgar also noted the significance of hosting an international body such as ACUNS at Laurier. "What it did was put a smallish university that had an active program of internationalization on the map of scholars around the world who look at the UN," he said, adding that ACUNS' presence aided in securing government funding in the development of Waterloo's Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI).

MacLachy echoed Edgar's point,

saying, "If you look at the previous universities that have hosted ACUNS, they're top-level U.S. institutions."

She continued, "It exemplifies the point that we are very strong as an institution in international relations, global governance, international security, peace and conflict."

Both MacLachy and Edgar made note of the development in international affairs scholarship at Laurier and nearby, including at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) and the Balsillie School of International Affairs. The continued presence of ACUNS at Laurier speaks to that trend of growth in the field and what it will mean for years to come.

"We're the first place that ACUNS has stayed for two terms, and that was a vote of confidence by our membership, an international board of governors, on the job that we'd done for five years and on what we said we could do for the next five years," Edgar said.

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LOCAL

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Meet your potential mayor

As the countdown to the municipal election in October begins, News Director Linda Givetash sits down with each of the four mayoral candidates to discover their perspective of Waterloo.



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR
Jan d'Ailly, a resident of Waterloo for 20 years, lives at 32 Academy Crescent near Columbia Street and Westmount Road.

Jan d'Ailly
Councilor for the Central-Columbia Ward 6, d'Ailly lives in the Beechwood neighbourhood just minutes away from the northwest corner of the University of Waterloo (UW). Having lived in his current home for six years and in the area for about 20 years, d'Ailly explained that he moved to Waterloo from London, Ontario after working and commuting for over a year to the tri-city area.

D'Ailly's community involvement, apart from his two consecutive terms on city council, includes being an active member of his neighbourhood association as well as participating in the area's recreational activities.

"There's lots of opportunities to do the sporty-type things and take care of your physical body." An avid cross-country skier and commodore for the Conestoga Sailing Club, d'Ailly praised the recreational programming in the city. He set this aspect of city living as the bar from which to compare other aspects of city living. "I think one thing we really need to improve is that arts and culture piece to make it as important as the sports piece," he said, elaborating that improving the arts and culture in the city as one of his priorities.

Prior to his involvement in municipal politics, American-born d'Ailly put his Canadian business degrees to use working for 20 years in the private sector. Expressing his joy in entering public service to contribute to his community, he commented, "Through my work I've travelled extensively throughout the world and when you see what we have in terms of the standard of living, the opportunities for education, the opportunities to do what you want to do, you know, we're at the envy of the world."



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR
Brenda Halloran has lived in her new home for two years at 559 Tidewater Place just north of the Laurel Creek Conservation Area.

Brenda Halloran
Campaigning for re-election, current mayor Halloran has lived in her house just north of the Laurel Creek Conservation Area for two years. While she is a rather new resident to her neighbourhood, she has spent an extensive amount of time in different neighbourhoods throughout the city having grown up in the University and Glenridge areas.

Like the other candidates, work and personal circumstances have taken her out of Waterloo for periods of time, from obtaining her post-secondary education in Stratford to living in Florida and Toronto.

"I think as younger people need to go out and like I did, travel the world and see things, explore other areas to live in," she reflected on her experiences. "But to me there's that old saying 'there's no place like home' and Waterloo is home to me."

With a nursing degree from Conestoga College, Halloran's background in health care came through as she explained her two attempts to apply to the Ministry of Health for a "health care centre of excellence." While her efforts have been unsuccessful thus far, Halloran expressed her determination to win approval on such a facility if elected for a second term.

After a term of building up the city's physical infrastructure, including the addition of a public square, Halloran is turning her focus back to individual citizens.

"For me the next step is building the social infrastructure, finding out how can we give more support to our neighbourhood associations, how can we create more community-centered ideas in the neighbourhoods?" she said.

"A city doesn't run itself in isolation, you have to involve the community, you have to invite people in."



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

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NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Franklin Ramsomair has lived in his house at 597 Glendene Crescent, by Weber Street and Northfield Drive, for 22 years.

Franklin Ramsomair

Former professor of management at Wilfrid Laurier University, Ramsomair has spent his 22 years in Waterloo living in his house in a quiet neighbourhood near Weber Street and Northfield Drive.

Moving to the city after receiving a teaching position at UW, he had previously spent five years working in industry in eastern Canada and obtained his doctorate from the University of Toronto.

Explaining his diligence in gathering practical experience before becoming a professor, Ramsomair explained, "I wanted to say that I went through the knowledge, the experiences and the politics of industry."

In addition to being a professor and mentor to the thousands of students that have passed through his classroom, Ramsomair formed the organization Dream High and Fly which provides business education to underserved youth.

In discussing the changes he would like to see in the city, Ramsomair said, "I would lobby against the voluminous tax burden that we have to carry."

"Up to three years ago we were paying one per cent in tax and that has gone to ten per cent over the last three years," he explained further.

Drawing from his experience in teaching, Ramsomair intends to provide guidance to council in order to improve many of the city's issues. "My sense of satisfaction comes from facilitating people, providing them with avenues to develop themselves and after 20 years I thought, let me try for a wider community."



NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

A long time resident of Waterloo, Dale Ross now lives at 335 Milla Court, near Columbia Street and Westmount Road.

Dale Ross

Ross, a Laurier alumnus with a long history in the city, lives in a fairly new home in the older Beechwood area near UW. Although business had him living in Oakville for several years, Ross and his family have been residents of Waterloo for over 40 years.

"You don't get some of the hustle and bustle that you get in the Toronto area," Ross explained, having decided to return to Waterloo after his retirement. "In ten minutes you can be out in the countryside ... and you still have a bit of a small-town feel for here."

His passion for business has kept him involved with the Canadian Supply-Chain Sector Council and Central Skills Canada. "I'm still heavily involved with the federal government in developing occupational standards and some of the associations, national and professional associations," said Ross.

More locally, Ross maintains a presence at Laurier, where he earned his BA and MBA. "I'm on the advisory board for the supply chain research centre at Wilfrid Laurier," he said. "I'm also a part-time instructor at Wilfrid Laurier."

Ross became interested in Waterloo's politics after supporting his friend Andrew Johnson in his campaign for mayor of Cambridge and researching the city's financial history. "The biggest concern I have with the area right now is just the financial health of the city," he remarked.

While he didn't plan on getting involved in city politics himself, Ross pointed to his career for providing him with the necessary experience. "I have a tremendous amount of experience in senior management from private industry, so this is a way for me to take some of the skills I've acquired over the years and give something back to the community."



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

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For videos of the candidates, check out thecord.ca/waterlooelection

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Funding provided for Light Rail Transit

Provincial and federal governments pledge \$565 million in an attempt to quell urban sprawl and the use of automobiles

ALANNA WALLACE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After the Waterloo City Council approved plans for a Light Rail Transit (LRT) system in June of 2009 that would link many popular destinations in the Kitchener-Waterloo region, funding from both levels of government has finally been pledged.

On June 28 of this year, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty announced that the government would be providing the region with \$300 million for the LRT project.

Earlier this month on Sept. 2, the federal government announced that they would provide one-third of the proposed cost of the project.

During a brief visit to the region, Prime Minister Stephen Harper pledged \$265 million in funding for the development of Light Rail Transit.

"[It] is a lot of money to come into this region from the two levels of government so we need to take some time over the next couple of months and look at what we've proposed as our first phase," said Waterloo regional chair Ken Seiling.

Despite the \$565 million in funding from both levels of government, monetary support still falls short of the total cost of Stage 1 of the project, which would see light rail services from Conestoga Mall to Fairview Place Mall and rapid bus services to Cambridge's Ainslie Street Bus Terminal.

"That is something that regional council will have to address," said

Nancy Button, director of rapid transit for the Region of Waterloo.

"We'll have to look at what is the best way we can use the money that's been committed, what's the best project and how much can the region fund."

Having approved the entire LRT system but having the project executed in stages, there is the possibility that the first phase will be altered slightly to accommodate final funding totals, though a decision has yet to be made.

"There are certainly some design elements, some alternatives that have to be looked at and we will take a look," said Seiling. "It's a combination of looking at what's feasible and plus looking at what's feasible financially."

Button continued the project has experienced some delays in part because of a need for a transit project assessment, which would examine the impacts of the project on factors such as the environment, nature, economics and the KW population.

LRT was approved for the region in an attempt to prepare for the region's projected population growth of over 200,000 by 2031.

LRT will be used to restrain urban sprawl, save farmland and restrict the use of automobiles.

"Our road system cannot accommodate that kind of a population growth with vehicles; we can't physically build all the roads that would be necessary or widen them necessarily," said Seiling, who commented that KW hopes to avoid the gridlock that plagues many communities in

the greater Toronto area.

Construction is expected to begin in 2013 with light rail operations beginning in 2016.

"We have a fair amount of work to do before we put a shovel in the ground," said Button.

LRT facts

- Stage 1 of the approved rapid transit route includes Light Rail Transit running from Conestoga Mall in Waterloo to Fairview Park Mall in Kitchener, much like the iExpress buses that currently run.
- Stage 1 will also include an adapted Bus Rapid Transit (aBRT) from Fairview Park Mall to the Ainslie Street Transit Terminal in Cambridge.
- This bus network will be altered during Stage 2 to Light Rail Transit which will run from Fairview Park Mall to the Ainslie Street Transit Terminal in Cambridge.
- The approved rapid transit system will cost an estimated \$790 million plus an additional \$1 million each year for the next decade to build transit ridership in Cambridge.
- Once completed, the Light Rail Transit system will have stops at the University of Waterloo and one near Wilfrid Laurier University.

-All information provided by the Waterloo Region's rapid transit website.

KW in brief

Election nominations closed

Nominations for mayor and councillors for the Waterloo region closed on Sept. 10. The following are the candidates for Ward 6 and 7.

Ward 6

- Anne R. Crowe
- Mike Connolly
- Jeff Henry
- Ed Korschewitz

Ward 7

- Erin Epp
- Edwin Laryea
- Duncan McLean
- Peter Wollstencroft
- Melissa Durrell
- Noel V. Butler

Council refuses to comment on gun registry debate

After citing the matter as one at the federal level, Waterloo council has refused to take a position on the debate surrounding the long-gun registry.

According to the *Waterloo Region Record*, many residents in the area urged the city council to vote. Former Liberal member of parliament (MP) Andrew Telegdi spoke in favour of the gun registry on Sept. 13. He called it "a valuable tool for front-line police officers in the performance of their duties."

High schools raise money for Pakistan flood victims

Students at numerous secondary schools across the Waterloo region are raising money for victims of Pakistan's floods through bake sales, face-painting events and sending letters home.

Some of the region's schools educate those who have personal ties to the disaster in Pakistan.

Schools participating include Forest Hill Public School in Kitchener. The Catholic school board has also sent letters home to parents asking for donations.

Kitchener site to house new skate park

Fischer Park, Gzowski Park, Southwest Optimist Sports Fields and Wilson Park are all locations that have been shortlisted as proposed locations for two new skate parks.

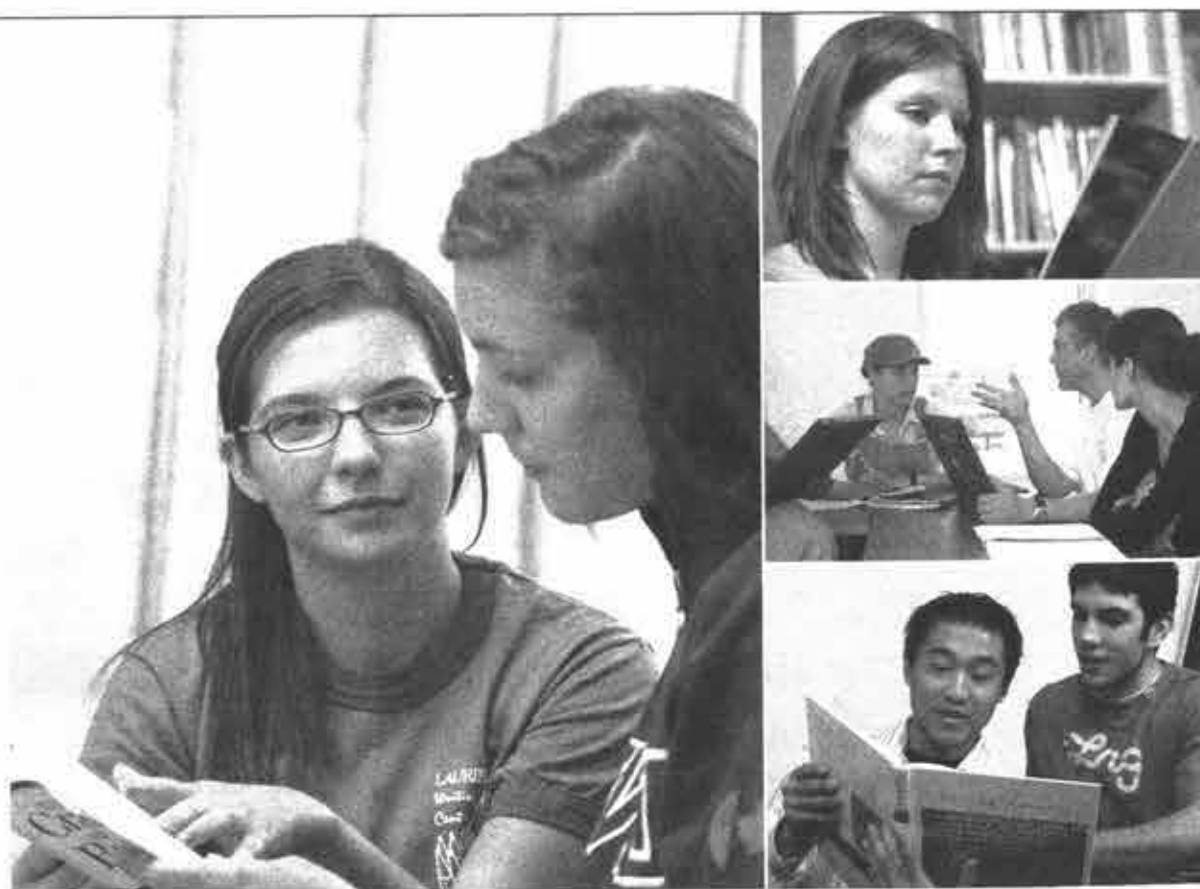
According to the *Waterloo Region Record* the completion of the two sites, anticipated to be in 2015 and 2017, will bring the total number of skate parks in the city to four – the number recommended in the city's Leisure Facilities Master Plan.

-All compiled by Alanna Wallace

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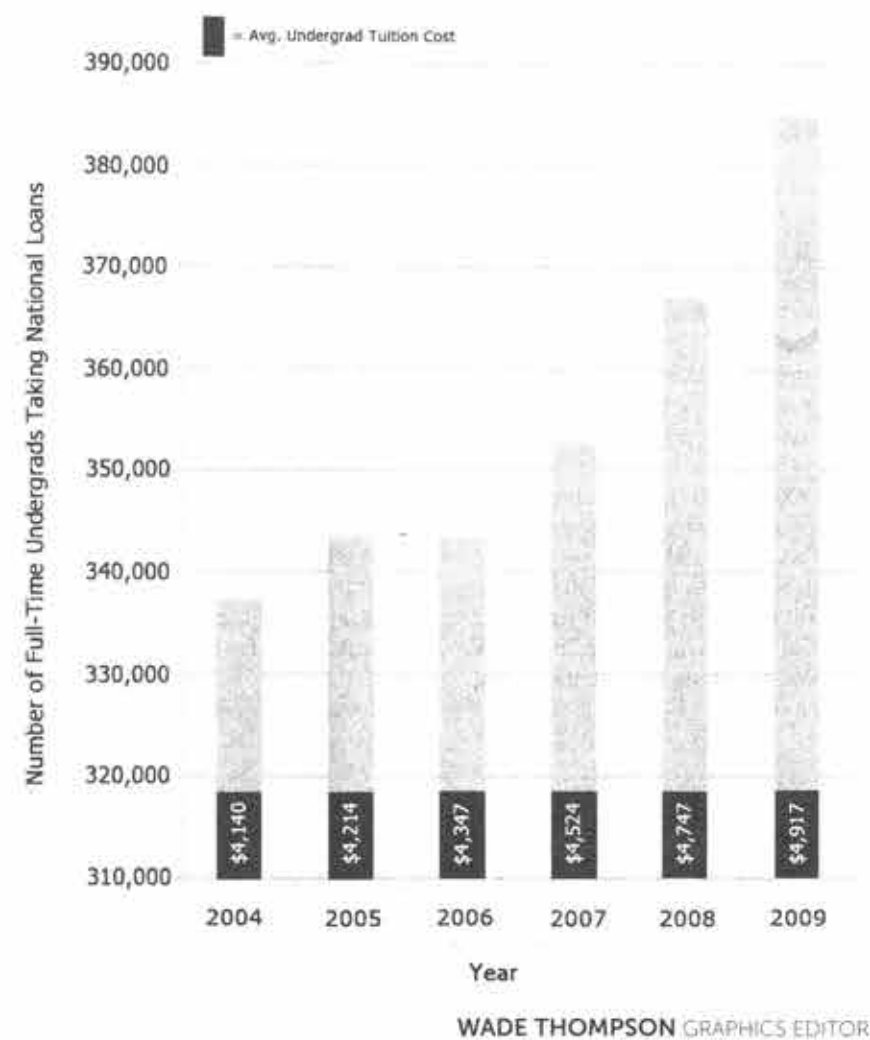
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Student loans reach a breaking point

Extension of loans to those with higher-income families partly to blame for instability of loan program



SEAN HAYWARD
STAFF WRITER

On Aug. 20, the federal government made a last minute change to the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP) in order to ensure that the program continues to operate normally for the coming school year. There is a cap on the overall amount of loans under the program that can be outstanding at any given time, set by law at \$15 billion. In 2008, the government estimated that the cap would be reached in 2014 or 2015, but due to an unanticipated increase in new student loan applications it became apparent that the cap would likely be reached this year.

According to Christine Neill, assistant professor of economics at Laurier, there are three main reasons that the total value of outstanding loans under the CSLP has increased more rapidly than expected. She explained first that there was "an increase in loan values in recent years, likely because of the extension of CSLP eligibility to students from higher income families and the increase in maximum loan limits, both of which happened around five years ago" and secondly, "a decrease in rates of repayment of student loans in recent years, likely in part due to the recession and the

associated decrease in incomes of graduates."

Finally, Neill stated that there was "an increase in enrolments due to some population growth and a higher enrolment rate, perhaps in part due to the recession, which did leave many younger people unable to find jobs."

If no action was taken, an estimated 50,000 students would have been denied their loans, with a total value of around \$300 million. The government's solution is to change the way that the total amount of the loans is calculated, cutting it down by about \$1.9 billion. However, this is only a temporary solution and a decision will have to be made over the course of the next year as to whether the cap should be increased.

Neill believes that any cap is ultimately redundant, reasoning, "If you're going to effectively ignore the cap, if and when you hit it, it seems to me that the most sensible thing is simply to remove any mention of a cap from the legislation or to put the cap at an extremely high level."

Some see this situation as symptomatic of rising tuition fees and an alleged decline in government financial support for post-secondary education. The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)

estimates that, adjusted for inflation, the federal government transferred \$3 billion less to the provinces for post-secondary education in 2007 than it did in 1995. Neill disagreed with suggestions that governments ought to increase their student financial aid programs.

"Actually, I think there's a case that post-secondary education in Canada is funded too much by governments and not enough by individuals," she states. "There is very little evidence that, on average, students have serious problems repaying their student loan debt."

While it is widely understood that tuition for post-secondary education is increasing at more than the rate of inflation, the gap may not be as great as some people think. "Tuition fees have been increasing somewhat faster than inflation, but not radically so," said Professor Neill.

She adds that between 2002 and 2008, tuition fees were up only two per cent more than inflation over that period.

"Student loans under OSAP/CSLP are a very good deal. Every student should check whether they are eligible and how much they could receive and should not be deterred from applying simply because it may mean graduating with debt."

Bank of Canada increases overnight rate

JOHN KENNEDY
STAFF WRITER

Last week, the Bank of Canada announced that it was raising its target for the overnight interest rate by a quarter per cent to one per cent, predominantly to restrict growth on areas of spending that require borrowed money.

This will mark the third straight month of rate increases, which was previously set at 0.25 per cent during the economic downturn, by Canada's central bank. This is suggestive that the Bank of Canada believes the Canadian economy is on the rebound, although GDP growth has been gradual.

"The Bank of Canada is acting to slowly restrict growth of demand on the portions of spending that are interest sensitive, like houses, cars

and, to some degree, exports," said David Johnson, professor of economics at Laurier.

Consistently raising interest rates signifies that the Bank of Canada believes low interest rates, that were set at zero at the start of the recession, are not needed to stimulate the Canadian economy.

Johnson believes that markets that will be most affected by an increase in the lending rate are those that are interest sensitive, primarily the housing and automobile markets. He also added that raising interest rates could potentially curb demand for items in these particular markets and others that are financed with borrowed money.

Other banks, however, are still skeptical about the rosy outlook the Bank of Canada has promoted regarding the Canadian economy.

While the rate increase was predicted, it has not garnered unanimous support from other financial institutions.

"Poor housing sales and less spending by Canadians is still making for a fragile economy and higher borrowing costs won't help improve the situation," said BMO economist Douglas Porter.

This sentiment on the fragility of the Canadian economy is shared by Craig Alexander, TD's chief economist, who stated in a press release that the "high indebtedness of Canadian households is also likely to act as a serious constraint on spending even in a continuing low interest rate environment."

Those who do support the Bank of Canada's increase of the overnight rate are speculating whether or not the gradual increase is aggressive

enough given the recent growth in the Canadian economy, especially with the inflation rate constant at two per cent.

"The goal is to be predictable and gradually raise interest rates. Assuming that the target rate of inflation remains around two per cent, we would expect the average interest rate to be greater than two per cent," Johnson explained.

Whether or not the Bank of Canada will hold off on raising interest rates, as many have predicted, will depend on the economic performance over the next quarter. Support for the rate increase has been split amongst financial institutions as borrowing money will now become more expensive.

Such a divide in support for the rate increase paints an unclear picture of the Canadian economy in

“It is hard to see a nominal rate of one per cent as sustainable forever.”

—David Johnson, professor of economics at Laurier

terms of growth rate increases and whether or not government stimulus has created long-run, sustainable demand.

"It is hard to see a nominal rate of one per cent as sustainable forever," said Johnson.

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WORLD

World Editor Alex Mitsiopoulos • amitsiopoulos@thecord.ca

Israeli-Palestinian negotiations resume

Clinton set to mediate talks as heads of state make significant efforts towards peace after shaky start



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Jerusalem's Old city is divided into four areas, a Jewish, Armenian, Muslim and Christian quarter all currently under Israeli control.

A short history

Jerusalem was controlled by Jordan between 1949 and 1967 and by Israel since the 1967 Six Day War.

Settlements in dispute include those in the Jewish Quarter as well as neighbourhoods on the northern and southern outskirts of Jerusalem such as Gilo and Ramot.

The Palestinians consider all of eastern Jerusalem to be settlements.

Egypt has been at peace with Israel since 1979. It is considered a key broker between Israel and the Palestinians.

BRIAN SHAPOSHNIK
CORD WORLD

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has for over a year been publicly calling on Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas to agree to resume peace talks.

However, Abbas insisted that he would not accept an invitation unless Israel first agreed to halt all settlement construction in the West Bank as well as the areas inside of Jerusalem.

After mounting external pressure, mainly by the United States, Abbas finally accepted the invitation to resume direct negotiations with Israel last month, aimed at tackling the ongoing conflict between the two peoples.

As reported by the Jerusalem Post, a Palestinian Authority official explained, "The Palestinian Authority faced unprecedented and immense pressure from the Americans and some Europeans. We were not able to resist the pressure."

The direct talks kicked off on September 2nd in Washington, hosted by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. They were met with considerable optimism and media attention and the outcome of the initial meeting was positive, with the two sides agreeing to set biweekly meetings.

The goal of the talks is to reach a solution within 12 months covering all the core issues including security, borders, Jerusalem, settlements, refugees and water.

However, many analysts are pessimistic about the prospects of the renewed peace talks. Just as Abbas announced his intention to resume negotiations back in August, chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat clarified for the Jerusalem Post that "if the Israeli government decides on

“The demonization of one's opponent has perpetuated in this area since 1948, which is why so little has changed.”

—Barry Kay, professor of political science

September 26 to resume settlement construction there will be no talks." Palestinian Liberation Organization committee member Hanna Amireh added that the Palestinians would pull out of the talks "even if Israel builds one house in the settlements."

Erekat referred to September 26, the date that the Israeli ten month construction moratorium is set to expire. Since then, Abbas has repeated this threat to leave the talks unless Israel renews the settlement moratorium.

Israel, on the other hand, sees this threat as a continuation of the original precondition set by the Palestinians and continues to insist that all issues should be discussed within the framework of the talks themselves, and not as preconditions.

Dr. Barry Kay, an associate professor in Laurier's political science department said, "Nobody has ever lost a nickel betting against a peaceful outcome in the Middle East, so expectations for this process should be guarded."

He added, "The demonization of one's opponent has perpetuated in this area since 1948, which is why so little has changed. I am more interested in hearing the concessions each side is prepared to make, rather than the demands."

In recent days, the US has urged Israel to extend its construction moratorium as another goodwill gesture to the Palestinians. Both Hillary Clinton and President Bar-

ack Obama publicly called for the move. The New York Times quoted Obama as stating that "it makes sense to extend that moratorium," even though he acknowledged the difficult politics facing Netanyahu in Israel.

Netanyahu heads a mixed coalition, including several right-wing political parties that do not support a continuation of the moratorium and some leaders of these parties have threatened to topple the government if Netanyahu succumbs to the Palestinian precondition.

The renewed direct negotiations come at a price. The start of the talks was marked by three straight days of attacks against Israeli civilians by militants from the Palestinian terrorist group Hamas.

The terrorist attacks left four Israeli civilians murdered and three with moderate injuries. Hamas, who rules the Gaza Strip and has operatives in the West Bank, opposes any negotiations with Israel.

The New York Times reported that Ahmad Al-Jaabari, the Hamas military commander, encouraged jihad and resistance "until victory or martyrdom," criticizing Abbas for negotiating with "the Zionist enemy."

The talks are set to continue this week in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. Clinton will oversee the second round of talks, while each leader will meet separately with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.



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Larry King Live has captivated audiences since its debut in 1985.

Larry King retires

Morgan will replace 76-year-old King in renamed show during CNN prime-time

NIKICIA PHILLIPS
STAFF WRITER

A replacement for "Larry King Live" was announced last week. CNN has selected British journalist Piers Morgan to fill in as the prime-time news program's host.

Morgan, 45, may be familiar to North Americans for his appearances on reality shows such as "America's Got Talent" and "Celebrity Apprentice".

The exact name of the show has not been released yet, but the network stated that it would be a "candid, in-depth newsmaker interview program."

The much-anticipated news of Larry King's replacement follows King's announcement this past June that, much to the dismay of devoted late-night entertainment news enthusiasts, he will "hang up [his] nightly suspenders" as of January 2011. For over 25 years, the cartoon-like news anchor has hosted CNN's "Larry King Live", while conducting over 50,000 interviews during his broadcasting career.

Perhaps what is so unique about King is his approach to his interviews. Always calm and collected, he asked short questions to the point and never researched his guests before hand. He reveals that this method helped him ask questions that the average viewer would want to know the answers to. For instance, if he were interviewing an author, he says he would never read their book beforehand, as he wanted "to be in the same boat as the audience." In contrast to other news anchors and television hosts, Larry states, "I left my ego at the door... [because] I never learned a thing from talking."

The unpretentious New Yorker has interviewed thousands of people from various walks of life from

Snoop Dogg to Sarah Palin to Oprah Winfrey.

Ian Steinberg, who is currently teaching a communications course on television studies at Wilfrid Laurier University, explains the appeal of Larry King through his choice of guests: "Speaking as a fan of trash T.V., I thank him for his legacy. He had guests that could have easily been on Howard Stern appearing on CNN."

Steinberg adds that King played an important role in the entertainment industry as he gave these "oddball, sensationalist news stories... an international mainstream venue."

Although recently veering towards Hollywood stars, King has been known for his controversial interviews with politicians and reports on political news. In 1993, King hosted an intense debate on the North American Free Trade Agreement between Vice-President Al Gore and his opponent Ross Perot. Following the debate, public opinion on the agreement swayed considerably.

Despite his age of 76 and last quarter's ratings being the lowest ever in the program's history, King asserts that he felt no pressure to leave from CNN. Instead, King says that he is simply "tired of the nightly grind."

However, many speculate that the decision to step down was heavily influenced by his increasingly troubled family life.

Earlier in 2010, news regarding the failing marriage between King and his seventh wife, as well as her subsequent drug overdose, was made public. Nonetheless, King insists that his personal troubles played no part in his choice to leave the show and would have made the same decision whether he was "divorced, single or married."

Extremists steal headlines

JESSE FINN
CORD WORLD

The Qur'an deserves to be burnt; the prophet Muhammad is a terrorist. These are only a few of the sentiments that have been barraging our media headlines over the past several weeks.

On Sept. 8, German Chancellor Angela Merkel made her most controversial move since coming to office by awarding Danish cartoonist Kurt Westergaard with a prestigious award heralding the freedom of the press. Naturally this reopened old wounds with not only Muslim communities of Europe, but across the globe, as the media continues to focus on these radical actions and the equally disturbing threats laid against these perceived

blasphemous actions.

The media purports to give us an unbiased approach by highlighting each of these extreme views, but Laurier professor of global studies Ali Zaidi believes that these are both situations in which free speech is being abused.

Realizing the issues that will arise if the media continues its coverage of extremist elements as it only serves to widen the gap between cultures and decrease our levels of tolerance and understanding, Zaidi proposed a two-fold approach towards rectifying the increasing East-West cultural divide.

"First, we in the Western world must focus on educating ourselves about the responsible use of freedom of speech," said Zaidi. "It is not enough to lobby for the sustained

use of this right, but rather we must begin to study and consider the ethical use of its exercise."

He went on to add, "The second part of this process would require another mass education program whereby the Muslims, whether they are in majority or minority status in a nation, would continue to learn about why the freedom of speech has become paramount in Western societies."

This certainly proves to be no small task, but is nonetheless necessary should we wish to mend the increasing break between East and West. As Zaidi pointed out, "The original purpose of the free press was to limit the power a government held over its people, not to be used as a tool to oppress or further marginalize groups in a given society."

World in brief

Muscat, Oman - Sarah Shourd, an American national, was finally freed after spending more than a year incarcerated in an Iranian jail. Held on charges of espionage, Shourd had accidentally crossed across the border while hiking with two others in Iraq's northern province of Khormal. Shourd was released on a bail of \$500,000.

Alcamo, Italy - Officials have seized 1.5 billion euros worth of assets from a Sicilian man suspected of working with the Mafia. Some of the assets seized included property belonging to wind and solar companies, buildings and the contents of bank accounts. This has been the largest confiscation of assets attributed to the mafia in Italian history.

New York City, USA - Michelle Bachelet, Chile's former president, has been chosen to head UN Women, the new agency promoting equality among women. Bachelet stepped down as president in March earlier this year. The new agency was created this past July, combining four previously existing UN bodies for women's rights.

Interested in writing for World News?

Submit your application online at **www.wlusp.com** or email the editor at **amitsiopoulos@thecord.ca** for details.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010
for the following offices:

OFFICE FOR WHICH VOTE TO BE HELD	NO. TO BE ELECTED
Mayor, City of Waterloo	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 1 – Southwest	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 3 – Lakeshore	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 4 – Northeast	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 5 – Southeast	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 6 – Central-Columbia	1
Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 7 – Uptown	1
Chair, Regional Municipality of Waterloo	1
Councillor, Regional Municipality of Waterloo	2
Membre, Le Conseil scolaire de district du Centre-Sud-Ouest (French Language Public School Board, Region of Waterloo, Counties of Huron, Middlesex, Perth and Wellington)	1
Member, Waterloo Region District School Board	3
Mayor, City of Waterloo	1

Please note the following acclamations:

Councillor, City of Waterloo – Ward 2 – Northwest	KAREN SCIAN
Member, Waterloo Catholic District School Board	ROBERT HÉTU JANEK P. JAGIELLOWICZ
Membre, Le Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud (French Language Separate School Board) to represent the Region of Waterloo and the Counties of Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk	DOROTHÉE PETIT-PAS

REGULAR VOTING DAY – MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010
10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Students living in on-campus residences will vote at:

Wilfrid Laurier University
Dr. Alvin Woods Building, Concourse Centre
75 University Avenue
Waterloo, Ontario

Note: This voting location is for on-campus residents only.

Students living in off-campus accommodations should contact the Clerk's Office at 519-747-8777 or 519-747-8704 to find out where they vote.

ADVANCE VOTING DAYS

Date	Location	Time
Saturday, October 2	Conestoga Mall	10 am to 6 pm
Sunday, October 3	Conestoga Mall	12 noon to 5 pm
Thursday, October 7	City Hall	10 am to 6 pm
Friday, October 8	City Hall	10 am to 6 pm
Friday, October 15	City Hall	10 am to 6 pm
Saturday, October 16	City Hall	10 am to 6 pm

PROXY APPLICATIONS


A person who has been appointed a voting proxy **must appear in person before the City Clerk**, City Hall, Main Floor, 100 Regina Street South, Waterloo, Ontario to complete a required form including a statutory declaration that the person is the person appointed as a voting proxy.

The City Clerk's Office will be open for this purpose from:

- i) 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, including Election Day, October 25, 2010.
- ii) 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 2, 2010, Sunday, October 3, 2010 and Saturday, October 16, 2010 (Advance Voting Days)

Proxy applications may also be completed during the Advance Votes at Conestoga Mall on Saturday, October 2 and Sunday, October 3, 2010.

SUSAN GREATRIX, CITY CLERK
City of Waterloo
100 Regina Street South
Waterloo, Ontario N2J 4A8



H:\C07 - 2010 Election\Advertising\Ad 11 - WLU - Notice of Vote-Proxy-Advance.doc

ARTS

Arts Editor Sarah Murphy • smurphy@thecord.ca

Down With Webster rocks frosh

Laurier welcomes students to campus with an exhilarating and energetic performance

LAURA SEDGWICK
FEATURES EDITOR

On Tuesday night of O-Week Down With Webster headlined Laurier's on-campus party at the Turret.

Opening for Webster were San Sebastian from Much Music's *Disband* and Midway State.

Meanwhile, Michou and A-team's 2009-2010 Last Band Standing champions, Funk in the Oven, performed at Wilf's while Conor Cutz DJ'd in the quad.

San Sebastian hit the stage at 9:45p.m.

They were well received by the crowd of energetic first-years and O-Week volunteers who were already giddy likely due to sleep deprivation and the upbeat O-Week atmosphere.

San Sebastian's confidence, strong stage presence and catchy

lyrics had the crowd fist pumping and singing along.

"I was standing on the metal ledge at one point and I was kind of leaning into the crowd," said Sean Dawson, San Sebastian's guitarist.

"When everyone started jumping, then the metal dipped and I thought 'we're gonna go down, this is over!'"

Though the venue stayed fully intact, the floor and speakers were literally shaking.

"It's awesome to do shows like this, I mean, what an amazing crowd," said another band member after the show.

For their last song, "Let You Down", they were joined by Arkell's frontman Max Kerman.

San Sebastian will begin their cross-Canada tour with Hedley on Sept. 13.

Next to take the stage was Midway State and, like San Sebastian, they were well-received by the crowd.

Though many of their are slower, Midway State managed to keep the energy level high.

Lead singer and keyboardist Nathan Ferraro was personable and engaging.

In an interview with the Cord, Ferraro stated that although he doesn't consider himself a "great" musician, he thinks of himself as an honest musician.

This is demonstrated by many of his lyrics in songs such as "Change For You" and "Fire Keeps On Burning."

When headliner Down With Webster took the stage at midnight, fans erupted in applause in anticipation of a high-energy, high-impact performance.

Not one to disappoint, Down With Webster delivered just that.

Though Webster has played several times at Laurier over the past few years, it's likely that many of the first-years had never seen them perform live before.

No doubt, they were impressed.

The band had the crowd throwing the back of their hands, W's, and 10's in the air and jumping until the floor shook.

Reflecting on how the band has been coping with their increasing fame, rapper Cam Hunter remarked, "We're a light-hearted bunch of guys and we're in a really good situation, so there's not a lot to be angry about right now."

After the show, an exhilarated O-Week volunteer who was sitting in the 24-Lounge just below the Turret commented, "The whole room was shaking! I've experienced that to a lesser degree with other concerts, but this time it felt like an



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Down With Webster put on an energetic show for WLU's first years.



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Fans show their adoration for DWW at the Turret last Tuesday night.

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Backup plans: Moving on when your intended path doesn't work

Features editor **Laura Sedgwick** shares her personal experiences while navigating career uncertainty and how you can use failure to your advantage.

Related books and readings

1. *Who Moved My Cheese* by Dr Spencer Johnson is a book about anticipating and adapting to change.
2. Robert Rhodes James' *Churchill: A Study in Failure 1900-1939* is a biography exploring the merits of Sir Winston Churchill's judgement.
3. *Options: The Secret Life of Steve Jobs, a Parody* by Daniel Lyons is a fictional biography about Steve Jobs. Daniel Lyons also has a blog called 'The Secret Diary of Steve Jobs.'
4. Lee Haroun and Joyce Mitchell's *Exploring Your Future: 200 Career Options* is a career research encyclopedia with information about a variety of academic and career paths.
5. *The Collected Prose of Robert Frost* edited by Mark Richardson.



I expect to laugh through my tears when I find out I've been accepted to graduate school for a master's in clinical psychology. It's a choice of available post-graduate programs.

What makes me so sure I won't get accepted? I've applied to the most competitive psychology programs in Canada. I've been at a picture: approximately 110 people apply to Queen's for clinical psychology and only about 10 get in.

Also, my marks aren't exactly stellar, not to mention I don't have an undergraduate psychology thesis. It's rare for a psychology post-secondary institutions (including Queen's) to accept students at most of the others, whatever "preferred" means.

Then get one, right? If only it was that easy. It means I would have to stay back at Laurier for another year. Wrong, I love it here, but I feel that I'm ready for a change.

So what do I do when I'm relatively confident about going to pan out as planned? That's what backup plans are for.

First, I'm going to do everything I can do to make sure I get into a competitive clinical psychology master's student.

I plan to do volunteer work, conduct experiments, and read up on the supervisors I'm interested in working for. I'll miraculously get accepted. I also have to attempt to write the GRE.

Is all of that a total waste of time when my chances of getting into a master's program are so slim? I don't think so. If it doesn't pay off, it will surely pay off in another way. If nothing else, I'll have a variety of settings, meet new people and learn the value of hard work and ethics.

If you were to ask Steve Jobs, Chief Executive Officer of Apple, he'd say something about connecting the dots looking back. In his commencement speech he gave to Stanford graduates.

After he dropped out of school, he attended a design course. At the time, that didn't seem all that practical. In retrospect, it probably wouldn't have all those fancy fonts if it weren't for that one class.

My point, in case it wasn't crystal clear, is that what you're doing now will affect my future. Take writing for example. Maybe I'll end up being a professional journalist. Or maybe I'll be a living (backup plan numero uno).

I'm also planning to apply for journalism (I know, I know, ethics in print journalism (it's philosophy), bioethics, and maybe teachers college. If all else fails, I'll just go to law school. I've heard that's pretty easy to get into. (Just kidding.)

Plans, plans, plans

Every morning, okay, sometimes early afternoon, and after he's already been up for hours, my roommate asks me, "What's on your agenda today?"

It's nice that my roommate is interested in what I'm doing. Usually, I love to talk about myself, my life and my future. This is the same question.

Sometimes I don't know what to respond. Do I have an agenda every day? Can't I have an agenda every day? What's the value in spontaneity anymore?

Yes, I could just say "nothing," but that's not really a thing else I could've said, ends with a question mark that follows with him listing 10 things I can do today to improve his life and the value of my life.

Talk about intimidating.

He's the type of guy who lists too, for almost every day. He often doesn't accomplish what he lists, which is okay. He has general guidelines for himself. A lot of times I've heard him say, "I've done, just so I can check off my list and feel mildly accomplished."

Moving on when your plan doesn't work out

experiences while exploring how each individual handles plans that fall
failure to your advantage by planning for the worst

through my tears when I find out that I haven't been accepted for a master's in clinical psychology, my first choice of post-graduate programs. I'm not so sure I won't get accepted? For one, it's one of the best psychology programs in Ontario. Let me paint you a picture: approximately 110 people apply to Queen's (yes, I know, bootcamp psychology and only about five get accepted. I'm not exactly stellar, not to mention the fact that I don't have a psychology thesis. It's required at many clinical psychology programs (including Laurier), and preferred by employers, whatever "preferred" means. Right? If only it was that easy.

I'd have to stay back at Laurier an extra year. Don't get me wrong, but I feel that I'm ready for the next chapter in my life. When I'm relatively confident that my idyllic path isn't as planned? That's what backup plans are for and I've got one.

to do everything I can do to make myself at least a semi-finalist psychology master's student candidate. I'll volunteer work, conduct experiments for professors and supervisors I'm interested in working with, should I be accepted. I also have to attempt to improve my grades and

total waste of time when my chances of getting accepted don't think so. If it doesn't pay off in how I intend it to, it will be another way. If nothing else, I'll gain experience in a variety of new people and learn the invaluable lesson of work

ask Steve Jobs, Chief Executive Officer of Apple, I bet he was about connecting the dots like he did during the commencement he gave to Stanford graduates in 2005.

ed out of school, he attended a class about calligraphy which didn't seem all that practical. In retrospect, Macs and PCs don't have all those fancy fonts if it wasn't for him dropping

se it wasn't crystal clear, is that who knows how what I'm doing will affect my future. Take writing for The Cord, for instance; I'm being a professional journalist and writing features for a variety of (an numero uno).

ing to apply for journalism (I kind of mentioned that), philosophy (it's philosophy), bioethics (also philosophy) and other college. If all else fails, I'll just go for my MBA, as I've found it's easy to get into. (Just kidding, biz kids).

Plans, plans

at, okay, sometimes early afternoon when I finally wake up after already been up for hours, my roommate asks me: "What's your plan today?"

My roommate is interested in what I'm up to and, naturally, about myself, my life and my day, but every day he asks me the same question.

Don't know what to respond. Do I have to have an agenda every day? Can't I have an agenda-free day? Isn't there any room for spontaneity anymore?

Yes, I could just say "nothing," but that, along with anything else I could've said, ends with "how about you?" and that follows with him listing 101 things he plans to do that day to improve his life and the whole gosh-darn world.

Talk about intimidating.

He's the type of guy who makes lists. I make lists too, for almost everything. I like lists. I often don't accomplish everything I write on them, which is okay – they're still nice for general guidelines.

A lot of times I write stuff I've already done, just so I can check it off right away and feel mildly accomplished.

I make day lists, week lists, year lists and even life lists. My life lists change a lot. I'm not sure if it's because I'm making backup plans or if it's because my interests change.

Regardless, with every list I make, I always have a backup plan and, curiously, it's the same for every list. If my original plan is to complete everything that's on my list, my backup plan is not to.

So far I've had absolutely no trouble accomplishing one or the other.

Some are good, some are bad

Some plans are good, but with others you're just setting yourself up for failure.

Case in point: me applying for clinical psychology. So why do it? Well, there is a chance I won't fail, and if I do, I have backup plans for that.

Besides, isn't failure supposed to be good for you in some twisted sentiment?

I believe "character-building" is the term often used to describe this so-called phenomenon.

According to Winston Churchill, "Success is going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm," and that's not too hard to accomplish when you've got a variety of exciting backup plans.

"Failure is not an option," is another good quote. I used to think it meant that you can't (read: better not) fail. Now I take a more light-hearted approach and see it as saying you can't (read: can't) fail, because failure is impossible — especially if you've got a backup plan for failure.

That, of course, depends on your interpretation of what it means to fail.

Is "failing" a test or a course really "failing" in the grand scheme of things? I don't think so. In fact, I think it's kind of liberating. Let me give you an example.

When I was in grade 11, I got 55 per cent on a chemistry test. When I found out, I pretty much broke down. I thought I was nearing the end of the world. I wasn't, but it sure felt that way.

I'm kind of embarrassed to say that I was actually surprised that there were no drastic changes to the fabric of the universe. Looking back, it seems glaringly obvious, but at the time, I thought it was downright miraculous.

So then, why is failure not an option? It's because you just keep going and going through these so-called "failures", just like that Energizer Bunny.

Another reason to have backup plans, aside from being prepared in case of failure (which we pretty much determined is impossible anyway), is if you become disenchanted with your original plan.

That is, you may be well on your way to becoming a doctor, or doing whatever it is you want to be doing, but you find that is no longer your passion. As long as you have backup plans you have the opportunity to find a new path without feeling completely lost.

Expectations trap

You may feel disheartened if your long-term plans fall through, until you realize that you had blinders on and there is a whole world of options for you to discover.

You might realize that the path you are on is a result of societal or parental pressures and expectations.

Our society seems to say that if you want to be successful you need to have a postsecondary education (though Steve Jobs, who never graduated from university, could attest to the opposite).

Your parents may say you should go to law school at the University of Toronto, for example, but when you follow the plan that society or your family laid out for you, along the way you may become disillusioned with your path.

For this reason, backup plans aren't just good for replacing your original plan, should you fail or become disillusioned, but they are also an important tool in the way that they can demonstrate to you if what you are pursuing is really what you want to be doing.

Backup plans do this by showing you options and making you consider different things.

If you research a variety of alternatives and still decide to stick with the path your parents have laid out for you, you will know what you are

“

It's unproductive for a student to lay their entire life out because things are constantly changing.”

—Richard Elliott, associate dean of science and priorities and planning coordinator

missing out on and by making this informed choice you will have an awareness that would have otherwise gone to the wayside.

Of course, no matter what you choose to do, you will be missing out on something since you can't do everything, but at least, with the awareness of your options and potential backup plans, you won't be missing out on the things that you really want to do.

Undergraduate academics and backup plans

In a practical sense, backup plans and academics mesh well. Richard Elliott, associate dean of science and priorities and planning coordinator, suggested that students keep their options open starting in their first year of university.

"Almost all university programs require you to have a full credit in a certain discipline in order for you to go on in that major so a good thing to do is start your first year with five potential majors."

That is, in your first year you should plan to take a full credit (usually two classes) in all your courses, including electives, so that you will have a significantly easier time changing your major should you make that decision. That's four backup plans laid out for you right off the bat.

In the words of Elliott, "Today's elective might be tomorrow's major."

Furthermore, "If you really want something you should keep after it, but you should also keep your options open and not approach academics with tunnel vision," continued Elliott.

"What troubles me is people who try to map out their whole life by putting blinders on and preventing themselves from seeing alternatives."

That can be very demoralizing for some people if or when they realize that's not what they want to do or academically they can't do it any more. That's why it's important to keep your options open and have backup plans."

"Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, And sorry I could not travel both"

This is a not-so-famous but equally inspiring line from Robert Frost's *The Road Not Taken*.

Although I'm sure it can be interpreted in a number of different ways, I'd like to take it in the direction that expresses how backup plans aren't always backup plans.

Let me rephrase: sometimes a backup plan is only a backup plan because you can't do two things at once.

That is, sometimes the backup plan is just as appealing as the original plan, but you've got to choose one and, call it fate, you end up doing one and not the other.

That is, if the first plan falls through for whatever reason, you're just as content doing the non-backup backup plan.

I think people who have several non-backup backup plans are the ones who get lucky. That is, when at least getting lucky is equated with getting and doing what you want.

Of course everything is going to work out for you if you're happy no matter what you're doing.

In conclusion: get lucky.

Good luck!

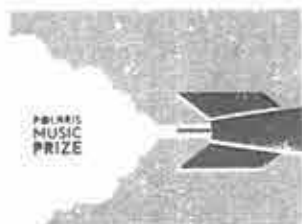
Polaris Music Prize winners

Final Fantasy
He Poos Clouds
2006

Patrick Watson
Close to Paradise
2007

Caribou
Andorra
2008

Fucked Up
The Chemistry of Common Life
2009



Polaris, politics and artistic merit

WLUSP discusses the albums shortlisted for the 2010 Polaris Music Prize

The Besnard Lakes *The Besnard Lakes Are the Roaring Night*

Despite rave reviews for its indie twist on progressive rock, Student Publications (WLUSP) failed to fully grasp the glory that some have seen in *The Besnard Lakes Are the Roaring Night*.

Campus News Editor Mike Lakusiak remarked that he was "not impressed," though he recognized that the album was "a step forward" from the Montreal band's previous releases.

WLUSP President Bryn Ossington liked the album, but seemed skeptical as to whether or not it was "Polaris-worthy."

Radio Laurier's Program Manager Judith Brunton also found the Besnard Lakes' album to be lacking in exceptional quality, though she claims that "they have a place in their scene and they can hold on to it with this album."

The panel unanimously agreed that a more deserving nominee could have been chosen for the shortlist.

Broken Social Scene *Forgiveness Rock Record*

The panel was divided on the latest record from one of Canada's most influential and collaborative musical ensembles.

Arts Editor Sarah Murphy preferred the new "cohesive, tight-sounding and put together" sound that came through on *Forgiveness Rock Record*, while Lakusiak believed that the disjointed and sometimes shambolic sound on previous albums was the charm of Broken Social Scene's music.

With the band's decision to trim their often overwhelming line-up of musicians, Ossington believes that this album ended up "missing a lot" and thinks that *Forgiveness* should not be the item in the Broken Social Scene (BSS) catalogue that is finally awarded the Polaris Music Prize, while In Depth Editor Rebecca

Vasluianu merely described it as "alright."

Resoundingly opposed to BSS winning, Brunton claimed that this album sounded like "the dad-rock ambient version of good Broken Social Scene from the past," though she vehemently defended the merit of older material like *You Forgot It In People*.

The notion that BSS are in strong contention for a win due to their already-existing body of work that has gone unrecognized by Polaris introduced issues with jury politics. Although the award should be granted based solely on artistic merit, political questions arise as with any awards show.

It was the panel's consensus that should BSS win, it would most likely be a vote to reward the band for their career achievements, not for *Forgiveness Rock Record*.

Caribou *Swim*

Previous winner Caribou wound up on the shortlist again this year for his album *Swim*.

Vasluianu argued that this past year's release was not as good as the 2008 Polaris-winning Andorra, though Ossington felt its spot on the shortlist was well-deserved and Lakusiak "liked it tremendously."

Brunton described the one man electronic act's *Swim* as "beautiful, but not always accessible," which perhaps explains the panel's divided opinions.

Karkwa *Le Chemins de Verre*

The panel managed to agree that the sole Francophone nominees on the list were indeed deserving of the acclaim they've received.

Lakusiak pointed out that because the album presents a language barrier to some listeners, it's "easy to have a prejudice" before hearing *Le Chemins de Verre*, while Murphy agreed that not understanding the lyrical elements of the songs could be considered a drawback.

Nonetheless, each panel member was thoroughly impressed by the French Canadian musicians.

Vasluianu endorsed Karkwa as having the best album in the bunch and Lakusiak believes that "amidst the other nominees, it stands out."

Dan Mangan *Nice, Nice, Very Nice*

Seemingly a favourite amongst WLUSP, British Columbia-based singer-songwriter Dan Mangan's latest album won rave reviews across the board.

Nice, Nice, Very Nice marvellously demonstrates Mangan's ability to tell stories through music. The sound is far from aggressive, but the songs are accessible to most audiences and are memorable long after an initial listen.

After hearing it for the first time, Lakusiak was "immediately amazed" and months later is of the same persuasion.

With the prize supposedly being awarded solely on artistic merit, Brunton declared that Mangan has "incredible artistic ability" and went on to say that he seems like an artist who truly earned his nod by working his ass off.

She further justified Mangan's praise by remarking that he has the potential to become "a staple in the Canadian scene."

Ossington, Vasluianu and Murphy all enthusiastically supported the comments made by the rest of the panel.

Owen Pallett *Heartland*

Previous winner of the 2006 Polaris Music Prize (under the pseudonym Final Fantasy), Pallett snagged another nomination for his concept album *Heartland*.

Brunton described the album's arrangement as "very brave and very beautiful," while Ossington remarked that "whatever Pallett touches turns to gold." He also praised *Heartland*'s production quality, but believed there were better

overall nominees in this year's contest.

Lakusiak somewhat agreed, stating that "amongst the crowd Pallett's in right now, I don't see his album as superior."

Vasluianu and Murphy questioned Pallett's ability to outdo the 2006 winning album *He Poos Clouds*, deciding that it is improbable that he will be rewarded the prize again this year.

Radio Radio *Belmundo Regal*

Arguably the most unique entry on the shortlist this year, Radio Radio's album acted as the panel's first introduction to Acadian hip hop.

Words like campy, fun and ridiculous were thrown around as the panel grappled to find a comprehensive way to define *Belmundo Regal*.

Ossington felt as a band that is respected within its own obscure scene, Radio Radio was a justifiable inclusion on the shortlist for Polaris this year, while Murphy commented that *Belmundo Regal* deserved recognition simply for adding variety to the sometimes standard, indie-rock-heavy list.

The Sadies *Darker Circles*

The Sadies are good at what they do.

They have been producing what Lakusiak deemed solid "Canadian bar music" for the last 12 years, but the panel objected to the idea of granting a prize for the best album of the year to a band for having a well-respected back-catalogue.

That said, *Darker Circles* is still a great album that showcases how much the band has grown over time.

Catchy, jangly riffs permeate the album, making it difficult for listeners to not tap their foot along to the music.

Not a favourite album amongst WLUSP, but nonetheless respected; Ossington closed the discussion saying, "I understand why it's on the list."

Shad *TSOL*

Laurier alumnus Shad returns to the Canadian hip hop scene with his second Polaris-nominated album *TSOL*.

Described by Murphy as music that is "super articulate, intelligent and still relatable," the album also provides much-needed diversity on the list by incorporating yet another genre.

Lakusiak affectionately referred to *TSOL* as "a wonderful album by a wonderful human being," whereas Brunton aired her concerns that Shad's chances of winning may be affected by the Polaris jury's desire to "look cool" by selecting a rap album.

Tegan & Sara *Sainthood*

Twins Tegan and Sara Quin sparked some heated debate amongst panel members, though ultimately it was unanimously agreed that *Sainthood* should not have been included on the shortlist.

Previous fans of the band, Ossington and Lakusiak both agreed that this album is not their best work – something they attribute to over production and a failed attempt at a "retro-pop thing." Brunton felt that the duo's increased success has turned Tegan & Sara in to "a universal gateway indie rock band that feels pressure to be something that they don't need to be."

Vasluianu and Murphy criticized the album for sounding too similar to their other material, lacking any real artistic growth.

Should win:
Dan Mangan

Will win:
Broken Social Scene

The Polaris Music Prize winner will be announced on September 20 at a gala in Toronto.

—Compiled by Sarah Murphy

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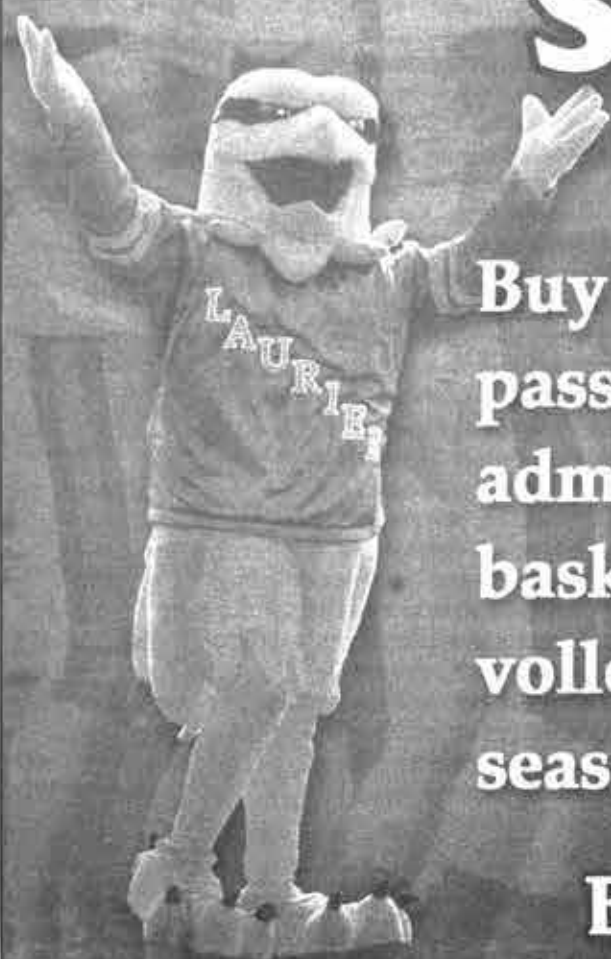
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Poll Results:

How will you be celebrating O-Week?

52%

Call me when it's over

27%

Drinking

15%

Participate in some things and do my own stuff as well

6%

Cheering and participating like crazy

Check out thecord.ca for this week's question

Dear LIFE

Dear Life is your opportunity to write a letter to your life, allowing you to vent your anger with life's little frustrations in a completely public forum. All submissions to Dear Life are anonymous, should be no longer than 100 words and must be addressed to your life. Submissions can be sent to dearlife@thecord.ca no later than Monday at noon each week.

Dear Life,

It really bugs me that every time I go to look at my horoscope in The Cord, I'm looking at the wrong symbol. The Cancer symbol and the Gemini symbol should be switched back to their normal states. Sincerely, Please learn your Astrology symbols

Dear Life,

Every time I "walk on the hawk" I get yelled at by self righteous school spirit fuck heads. Guess who paid for that monstrosity? Part of my school fees and part of yours. If you choose to fucking clog the hall and part like Moses did to the Red Sea, I will choose to walk right down the middle of that \$15,000 sea bed. Sincerely, It's my fucking floor too

Dear Life,

There was no hawk in the hall of fame three years ago, and it was certainly nice to be able to walk down the hall without getting surrounded, yelled at and shoved. Forget this overpriced "tradition"; let's go back to the days of decency. Sincerely, Aggression ≠ school spirit

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Student rental properties available for rent close to WLU. CLEAN, upgraded DETACHED houses, townhouses, apartments and true loft spaces rentals available on many nearby streets including Ezra, Marshall, Hazel, and Lester. Rentals to suit all groups size from 1 to 13. Many start dates available. Please contact [Hoffaco Property Management](mailto:Hoffaco_Property_Management-rent@hoffaco.com) rent@hoffaco.com (preferred) or through phone 519-885-7910.

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EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkley@thecord.ca

Students must engage in municipal campaign

On Oct. 25 the citizens of Waterloo will be going to the polls to elect a new mayor and council for the next four years. Traditionally, turnout in municipal elections is abysmal and this is especially the case for young voters. There is however quite a bit at stake for students and every effort needs to be made to reverse this trend.

Several issues have arisen that have a direct impact on students. Currently, there is a study looking at the feasibility of paid parking on Bricker Ave. This is nothing but a money grab that targets students.

Perhaps most outrageously, last year a bylaw was passed to levy a thousand dollar fine on those on the lease of a property hosting a kegger, with public drunkenness tickets being allowed to be levied on private property.

More and more students find themselves the target of populist agitation by municipal politicians pandering to adult voters. Students are an easy punching bag because they aren't engaged and don't hold their municipal leaders accountable.

On top of all this of course is the larger issue of student integration in the community. Our municipal leaders have an obligation to take the needs of students into account when forming policy, but sometimes they need a push in the right direction. This can only happen if students become engaged in the community.

Integration is a two way street: students also must make an effort to participate in the community and engage. So be sure to pay attention to the issues in the race, perhaps attend a candidate debate and cast your vote in October. Things won't change unless students take action.

—The Cord Editorial Board

Qur'an burning threat by pastor irresponsible

The recent controversy over the potential burning of 200 Qur'an on Sept. 11 by a Florida pastor has sparked a flurry of rage around the world. Like the debate surrounding the Park 51 Islamic cultural centre in south Manhattan it pits societal values of freedom of speech against a desire for a degree of sensitivity, cultural or otherwise.

It is also clear that the burning of the Qur'an will spark violence overseas, which would endanger the lives of innocent Americans both in the military and civilians. Even the threat of the demonstration has led to deaths in Afghanistan.

Pastor Burns and his followers have a right to burn the Qur'an if they so choose, just as Imam Rauf has the right to build the Park 51 Islamic Cultural Centre close to Ground Zero. They are not breaking the law and their right to freedom of expression are enshrined in the Bill of Rights. The arm of the state cannot be used to prevent individuals from practicing their rights.

It is clear, however, that with freedom comes responsibility. The proposed actions of the pastor are grossly insensitive towards the vast majority of Muslims around the globe. Furthermore, the burning of the Qur'an exposes a profound degree of ignorance and bigotry that infects certain sectors of American society, and harms America's reputation abroad.

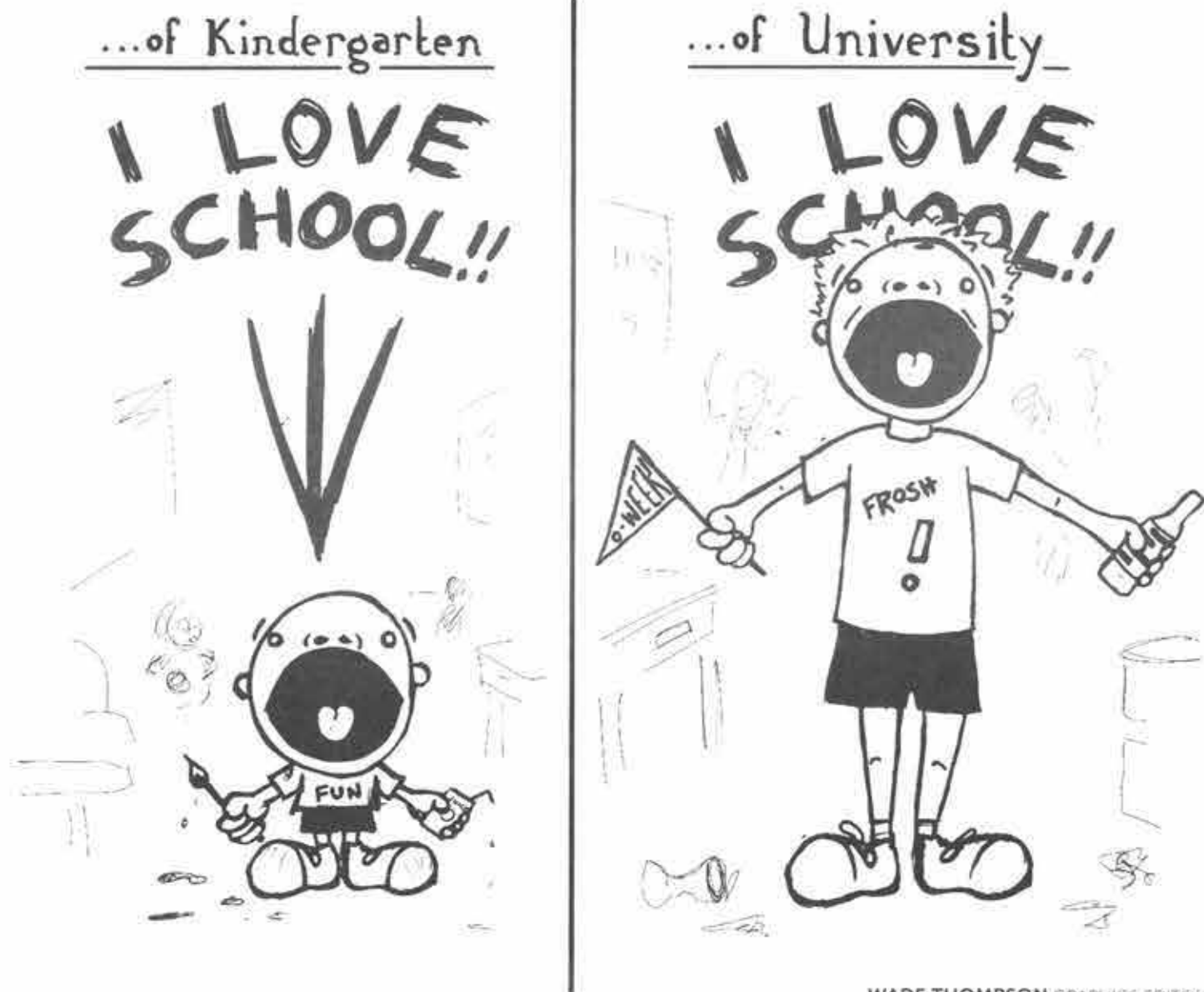
This stunt played into the hands of Islamic extremists by creating a false perception of a "Holy War" between the West and Islam. The orchestrated outrage that would have followed would have no doubt endangered the lives of American soldiers in Afghanistan, Iraq and at embassies across the Middle East.

Before embarking on stunts like burning sacred religious texts, Pastor Burns should seriously take a look at the implications of his actions. Thankfully, reason prevailed and the pastor backed down in this instance, but the damage was already done.

—The Cord Editorial Board

This unsigned editorial is based off informal discussions and then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord's editorial board, which consists of 15 senior Cord staff including the Editor-in-Chief and Opinion Editor. The arguments made may reference any facts that have been made available through interviews, documents or other sources. The views presented do not necessarily reflect those of The Cord's volunteers, staff or WLUSP.

FIRST WEEK...



Reflections on O-Week



MIKE LAKUSIAK
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR
letters@thecord.ca

Common sense seems to indicate that there isn't a tremendous link between the enthusiastic group "orientation" students participate in during their first week at Laurier and the subsequent four years of their university experience.

Despite the best intentions of those involved in this yearly ritual to inject a dose of academia into the week leading up to what is meant to be several years of education, those intentions will again have been drowned out by cheering.

Sure, there are vague "learning objectives" attached to O-Week, but are students really aided by being generally reduced to kindergartners rather than the adult selves they will be forced to look for in themselves as they progress toward a degree?

Will you put that you were a "Green Amazon" on your résumé when you eventually enter the workforce? Will you draw from all the lessons you learned from "Uh Oh" and the regatta games when you're staying up all night writing papers or pouring over textbooks before exams in third year? Will this week have done much more for you other than give you an opportunity to meet people? No.

O-Week is a great tool for meeting people, a necessary activity as one enters university. It seems however that more often than not, whatever acquaintances or bonds result from the week are based

on the consensus that a lot of what is going on is ridiculous.

This is not to say that the overall intentions of O-Week are flawed, nor can I come up with a much better solution to the problem of several thousand fresh university students arriving on campus, grappling with what comes next, all at once.

The issue with O-Week is its theatrical quality. The bright colours and yelling meant to make first-years comfortable in a new environment seem to obscure what students are supposed to be here for in the first place: learning and subsequently a piece of paper proving such. That is ultimately why people come to university, right?

The other point stressed by O-Week organizers is that this week is understandably meant to act as a transition between high school and university. It makes sense that students arrive with an incomplete picture of all that university will entail and as a result, O-Week should focus on preparing students for what's to come.

However, instead of exemplifying student life, O-Week as it stands focuses almost exclusively on transition of a social nature. This leaves the academic transition almost entirely up to the sometimes sparsely-attended first-year lectures and for frustrated profs to remedy in the weeks to come.

Even the social nature of O-Week isn't entirely realistic. Students meet under outrageous circumstances unrepresentative of the rest of the time they'll spend together at Laurier. Be forewarned that you'll get to know your peers far better (for better and worse) when they're not wearing matching t-shirts and being led between activities in groups as though their parents dumped them in a summer camp.

Are students really aided by being reduced to kindergartners rather than the adult selves they will be forced to become as they progress towards a degree?

Applying academic elements to the week is an important step forward made in recent years by those who organize orientation. This idea should be taken a little further. Retain some of the team-building elements that keep anxiety in check and focus more on what's to come for students while toning down the insanity of it all.

Bringing in guest lecturers or having more involvement from faculty beyond the existing academic sessions would be a start. The Radical O-Week started in recent years by LSPIRG has started to take orientation in this direction. The genesis for this was no doubt that not everyone responds to what can come to be the overwhelming antics involved with the existing O-Week.

What ultimately needs to be made clear to students is that this week of activities should be taken with a grain of salt. There are far more valuable things to come over the course of the next few years than reminiscing fondly or not about one's first week here.

THE FORUM

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • merkley@thecord.ca

Sleep habits and the 'A' student



DON MORGENSON
letters@thecord.ca

As I followed two students down the hall, I could not help but overhear bits of their conversation: "I just pulled an 'all nighter' and I am not sure all that cramming worked. I just finished the exam and what I thought I had retained... simply disappeared."

I was tempted to intervene and provide them with some unsolicited advice, but I resisted the temptation as they carried on down the hall. I was going to remind them of some new evidence of links between a

good night's sleep and memory, all of which seriously questions that old and outdated wisdom that suggests studying all night will enhance that next morning's exam performance.

Recent research suggests that when people learn new skills and/or new information their retrieval performance does not improve until after they have had more than six – and preferably eight – hours of sleep. What students have studied or tried to learn does not get properly encoded in their brain's memory circuits.

New work has identified a critical association between memory banks, retrieval and the first and last stages of a night's sleep. This research data has some very important implications for institutions such as universities, academies, medical schools and the military; institutions that attempt to train/educate people after long periods of sleep

deprivation.

As a "draftee" during my basic training (with the 101st Airborne Division), it was futile trying to learn to strip a .30 calibre, water-cooled machine gun, while suffering from severe sleep debt after being roused out of bed at 5 a.m. for reveille. I am sure our field first sergeant never once thought that our performance on the firing range might be affected by a sleep debt.

How many of our current student population will try for greater sleep in the midst of October's mid-term examinations or the coming final exams in December? Only a very small, but wise minority will do so.

In experiments in sleep laboratories, individuals who slept for eight solid hours get healthy bouts of two kinds of sleep. The first two hours are spent in deep, slow-wave sleep while the last two hours were spent in REM (rapid eye movement) sleep

and those that receive both types of sleep tended to have much better retrieval for materials they had learned the day before. Even those students tested two to three days to a week after their training could do the visual tasks given them more accurately and faster.

Recent neuroscience research has provided an explanation for such phenomena. During the first two hours of sleep (slow-wave sleep) certain brain chemicals are in steep decline as information flows out of a memory region (hippocampus) into the cerebral cortex.

During the next four hours, the brain engages itself in an active neurochemical conversation during which the information is distributed, categorized and networked.

During the last two hours of sleep, brain chemistry and activity again change drastically as the cortex goes into an active dreaming

state. The memory region is now shut off from the cortex as the brain literally re-enacts the learning and solidifies the new connections in its memory banks or what is referred to as "consolidation".

Those students who do not get sufficient sleep will not integrate the new material, the new facts or concepts into their memories.

Making such healthy sleep even more difficult, university students tend to suffer from a form of "sleep bulimia"; purging (sleeping little) and then bingeing, wherein they try to get by on three to five hours of sleep per day and binge by sleeping around the clock on weekends.

To read the rest of Don Morgenson's column and more, check out

thecord.ca

Letters to the Editor

Student Union level of spending is absurd

RE: *Financing student union projects, Sept 6th*

As a student of Laurier, I would love to see the Board of Directors and current president justify this absurd level of spending. We didn't need these new LCD screens, we didn't need the giant electronic sign on the front of the FNCC and we certainly didn't need a smartphone application.

What students do need out of their elected officials is to approve spending where it is needed. Better yet, give me my \$10 back and I'll spend it in a way I deem appropriate.

As a former ecobawk, I am appalled by this spending. It represents a profound waste of electricity that will benefit only a minority of students. If students need to know what the weather is like they can look out a window. If they need to know the hours of Wilf's they can walk up to Wilf's and look at the sign or look it up online. They are available on the WLUSU website. This is not a big enough campus to justify these screens.

At the very least the board of directors could have gotten some advertising money out of these expenditures. Did they not approach local businesses, banks, the beer store, LCBO, Grocery stores or Conestoga Mall to help pay down the cost of these projects? The lack of advertising on them tells me no one did.

I challenge any current board member who supported this expense to justify their decision in a future Cord article.

— Anonymous

Opposition to mosque is politically motivated

RE: *9/11 mosque sparks controversy, Sept 6th*

The formentation of phony rage by the erroneously named "Tea Party" and their ilk regarding the 'mosque' controversy (because it is hard to get people angry about a "community centre" I suppose) demonstrates two things: 1) that those on the far right of the American political spectrum (Republicans) have nothing of substance or policy to run on during an

election year against the centre-right (Democrats) and 2) the line between ghosts and straw-men when it comes to political demagoguery is quite thin.

Unspoken in this 'debate' of who has the right to speak of cultural sensitivity, of what tolerance in America 2010 truly means, of who gets to "claim" the events of September 11th is the 55,000 square feet of "retail space" (as listed on the Freedom Tower website) available WITHIN Ground Zero itself (and not blocks away like the proposed community center).

Nothing speaks more to the commemoration of the dead than being able to buy Nike shoes, American Eagle t-shirts, and Levi jeans on top of their remains. Television satirist Stephen Colbert, tongue firmly planted into cheek, said it best during his Aug. 12 broadcast, eviscerating the vitriolic rhetoric of degenerative discourse: "Every permit granted to a mosque is denied to an American house of worship—the mall."

True profanity does not come merely from ignorance; acquiescence to ignorance in the name of profit or political gain lurks behind everything wrapped up in the American flag buttressed with the rubble from the World Trade Centre buildings.

— T.A. Pattinson

"9/11 Mosque" phrase is misleading

RE: *9/11 mosque sparks controversy, Sept 6th*

The "Ground Zero Mosque" is not a mosque, it is a giant cultural community centre that will have a mosque at the top. It is a large building blocks away from where the WTC fell and it will look like any other building in the area.

The connotation that comes from "Ground Zero Mosque" and "9/11 mosque" makes one think of a mosque, like ones built in the Middle East, sitting atop where the WTC used to stand. If you are going to debate it, the very least you can do is address it without influencing your readers' decisions before they even read the article.

— Alexander Canavan

Water fluoridation is a public health issue

Most students are not aware that the Region of Waterloo fluoridates their water with hydrofluorosilicic acid, an untested liquid, scrubbed from the chimneys of the phosphate industry. It is the cheapest form of fluoride, and comes mixed with traces of mercury, lead, arsenic and radioactive materials.

As you read this, citizens of Waterloo are fighting fiercely against the status quo to get the Region to end this practice by telling the City of Waterloo to "turn

off the fluoride". This question is on the Oct 25th election ballot in Waterloo. You should become involved, because it's your health.

Students have a choice — ignore all this — stay inside the safe bubble of university life, or you could become politically active in the City of Waterloo. The Fluoride Question is about your daily health. The other question — Amalgamation talks — is about the sovereignty of the city itself. If you really don't care who is mayor or who is your ward counsellor, you could at least care what's in your drinking water

each day and how it affects your body.

You could consider that students are the most powerful voting block in the city in any election, if they ever rose up!

— Peter Mansell

Letter policy

Letters must not exceed 250 words. Include your full name and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12:00 p.m. noon Monday via e-mail to letters@thecord.ca. The Cord reserves the right to edit for length and clarity or to reject any letter.

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OPINION

Opinion Editor Eric Merkley • emerkeley@thecord.ca

Vote on fate of long-gun registry looms

Cord contributors Joseph McNinch-Pazzano and Martin Pineda debate the long-gun registry, the existence of which will be determined by a divided NDP caucus at third reading in the coming weeks

Point: Opposition to long-gun registry based on ideology and little else



JOSEPH MCNINCH-PAZZANO
letters@thecord.ca

The Conservative Party has erred in advocating for the elimination of the long-gun registry. In introducing her private member's bill, backbench Member of Parliament (MP) Candice Hooppner questionably called the registry both "wasteful and ineffective."

First, while the registry's initial cost was overrun, the cost required to maintain it from year to year is minimal. Hooppner's frustration over the initial implementation cost of the long-gun registry is understandable.

When announced in 1995, Liberals said that it would cost the taxpayers \$85 million. The ultimate

cost of the registry program was almost \$2 billion.

The argument about this cost figure, however, is now outdated. The Conservatives are free to take issue with the cost that has already been associated with the registry, but it stands as no reason to eliminate it. The only cause for concern now is the current cost of maintaining the program.

Former Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) gun program director Marty Cheliak has been credited with controlling the registry's costs and estimates now point to an ongoing annual cost of only \$3-4 million.

Furthermore, compare this to a \$9 to 13 billion Tory proposal to build more Canadian prisons and the registry is like spare change in the crime prevention purse.

Second, Hooppner's stand on the ineffectiveness of the registry is not conclusively proven. While some—Hooppner would say most—police officers do not want the registry, the

RCMP say it is an effective tool for police who consult it daily to check for any guns registered to someone accused of a violent crime.

The registry is consulted 14,000 times a day on average in crime investigations, during police situations and after arrests. If the registry is eliminated, 7 million gun registry records will be erased.

Even if Hooppner is correct about the ineffectiveness of those 14,000 inquiries, taking away one of the tools that a police officer can use to check a suspect's gun record inhibits an officer's awareness of what kind of suspect they are dealing with. Still, Hooppner would argue that criminals won't be using registered guns.

Waterloo Police Chief Matt Torigan argues that, in his experience, people have indeed taken their own and others' lives with registered guns and that knowing where those guns are is helpful information for officers.

Any debate on this subject must

concede that the registry does not know of the whereabouts of all guns. Even so, arguing that because the registry is unusable in some circumstances means that it should cease to exist as a tool in all circumstances, is not a logical argument. If the registry is flawed, Parliament should work to continually improve it, not eliminate it and negate all the work and money that has been put into it.

Hooppner's stand that the registry is an "imposition on farmers and hunters" seems to suggest that she believes there is an untenable burden on those who must register their guns.

Underlying this implication seems to be the opinion that the liberty and freedom of farmers and hunters is unduly breached by the registry.

An ongoing and perhaps unbreakable ideological difference underlies this debate: should government play a role in protecting collective societal rights at the possible

expense of individual rights?

To make the claim that the registry does this, however, Hooppner would have to make the utilitarian argument that the burden on hunters and farmers far outweighs that of the collective gain for society that comes with the gun registry.

Hooppner hasn't made this case and it would be a difficult one to make.

The fairly minimal burden of registering one's gun is far outweighed by the burden that would be placed on officers who think of the registry as a valuable tool.

The passionate pursuit which Hooppner brings to this debate is commendable. However, all debates must balance ideology with reality.

Hooppner's view of the reality of the gun registry leads her to believe that its imperfections should render it unusable. Perhaps, instead, Hooppner should work with other members who see its imperfections as well and build on the registry's successes instead of tearing it apart.

Counter-point: Costly long-gun registry does little to target violent crime



MARTIN PINEDA
letters@thecord.ca

A summer filled with bus tours and barbecue events has come to an end and Canadian politicians will once again return to Parliament Hill to vote on a private member's bill to scrap the long-gun registry.

Many Canadians, particularly shooting sports enthusiasts and those living in rural areas, are glad that this contentious issue is finally being given the recognition it deserves.

If passed, Bill C-391 will do away with the long-gun portion of current legislation requiring all firearms to be registered. In other words, most

semi-automatic rifles and shotguns will no longer need to be registered with the Canada Firearms Centre.

All other firearms that fall under the restricted and prohibited classifications, such as handguns and more compact semi-automatic rifles, would still need to be registered.

The fact of the matter is that the existence of the long-gun registry is an ineffective crime prevention strategy that comes at an enormous cost to both Canadian taxpayers and law-abiding firearms owners.

One of the biggest flaws of the current long-gun registry is that it does nothing to mitigate violent crime or the use of firearms by criminals.

The mechanism by which firearms are kept out of the hands of criminals is through licensing.

This is why applicants who wish to obtain a Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) must take

various safety courses depending on which types of firearms they would like to acquire, pay several fees and are subject to a criminal background check administered by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

Applicants are also screened for any previous history of domestic abuse, recent relationship failure, assault or mental health issues.

Prospective handgun owners must also be a member of a gun club and pay costly membership dues in order to obtain an Authorization to Transport permit (ATT), which is required in order to transport a handgun outside of home storage.

These policies provide sufficient regulation of firearms and present legitimate barriers that deter criminals from attempting to legally acquire firearms.

What needs to be emphasized is that it is illegal handguns and prohibited firearms purchased through the illicit arms trade which are the

weapons of choice for criminals — not legally purchased long-guns.

The Vancouver Police's Strategic Plan 2004-2008 reports that 97 per cent of firearms seized in 2003 were illegal firearms brought into Canada from the United States through organized crime.

Calgary Police Chief Rick Hanson spoke out about the failure of the long-gun registry in crime prevention when he said, "For the years it's been in effect, there are more guns on the street today — handguns and prohibited weapons — than I can ever recall, and that's since the gun registry has been implemented."

The number of illegally acquired firearms continues to rise as does the cost required to maintain such an ineffective policy. What hurts all Canadians, regardless of whether or not they own firearms, is how taxpayers continue to be burdened by a long-gun registry that is unable to deter violent crime yet is blatantly

irresponsible fiscally.

According to Public Safety Canada, the previous Liberal government promised in 1995 that the long-gun registry would be implemented at net cost of \$2 million.

Today, the Canadian Taxpayers Federation estimates that costs have amassed over \$2 billion and counting. We must not continue to blindly invest such a substantial amount of resources in failed policy.

Government spending should be directed towards initiatives that actually combat gun violence.

This is best achieved through having police forces that are better funded to deal with organized crime, better equipped border and airport security personnel that can more effectively intercept illegal weapons used in violent crimes and social programs that cut out the roots of delinquency before illegal possession of firearms even becomes an issue.

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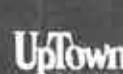
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Overnight parking is prohibited on all City streets and municipal parking lots (with the exception of the designated spots in the Station Lot).

The Parkade has 24 hour video surveillance and while you will be paying for your parking in this garage, or in the designated spots in the Station Lot (\$5 for overnight), your car will be safe and ticket-free until you can pick it up the next morning.

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NICK LACHANCE VISUAL DIRECTOR

Ban on gay blood donations justified

SHAGUN RANDHAWA
letters@thecord.ca

I was right behind the activist picket fences, raising my own signs in support of gay rights. I was marching right along in the fight for same sex marriage. But when the lights began to shine on a new issue, one that has been bubbling under the surface for the past few decades, I had to take a step back and assess the issue with an eye for the facts rather than a heart for the clear violation of equal rights.

Reluctantly, I have to agree with Madam Justice Catherine Aitkin's decision to find Kyle Freeman guilty.

In the 188-page ruling delivered on Thursday, Toronto's Kyle Freeman was ordered to pay \$10,000 to Canadian Blood Services for lying about his sexual history on a questionnaire used to pre-screen blood donors. Although he attempted to invoke the Charter's equality provision in an attempt to challenge the legitimacy of the questionnaire, the verdict to prohibit males who have participated in sexual activity with other males has been upheld.

While others can protest, boycott and stomp their feet at the Canadian Blood Services for disallowing donations from gay men, it has to be understood that the Canadian Blood Services is taking blood donations from strangers. Although contentions have been raised in regards to samples being tested for diseases, the fact of the matter is that no HIV test is 100 per cent accurate during the window period, a three month time frame after the contraction of

the ailment. What else can be done but eliminate high risk groups from the donating pool, gay men being one of them?

Before I am ransacked with cries of injustice, let's peruse a few facts. Actoronto.org has published that prior to 1995, 81 per cent of positive HIV tests in Canada among men were from the "men having sex with men" category. This proportion decreased to 49 per cent by 1999 but in 2000, the number had increased to 60 per cent. (actoronto.org)

According to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the "men having sex with men" category is 44 times more likely to contract HIV/AIDS than heterosexual men.

In the face of these troubling statistics, it can be concluded that the decision to remove this group from the donating pool is not to be seen as offensive, but rather a move to protect public safety.

To read the rest of Shagun Randhawa's column and more check out

thecord.ca

Light rail transit plan for KW shows promise

MARCIE FOSTER
letters@thecord.ca

The Region of Waterloo recently received funding in part by Federal and Provincial governments in order to move ahead with its Light Rail Transit (LRT) plan. Many of Canada's largest cities have LRT in place, including both Edmonton and Toronto.

The region is growing at a rate that would foresee growth targets for the next 25 years being hit in the next five to seven years and LRT hopes to accommodate that growth by allowing both students and permanent residents easy access to the main transit corridor and reducing the need to use a car as primary means of transportation.

Introducing Light Rail Transit to Waterloo Region comes at a price – almost \$800 million. However, as our economy continues to sputter, people will desire more affordable means of transportation and LRT certainly does offer that.

It is still not known what the true cost of the LRT will be to the city and the taxpayers. Not only does everything always cost more than the contractors say it will, but the maintenance costs, the training and wages of employees are all financial worries that could be an issue if the city does not receive the growth it desires.

The money going into LRT would be wasted if the returns do not sustain the entire project. Of course, the likelihood of the region

becoming stagnant is quite slim, as both universities took in more students and in general people are moving to the area.

There's also the possibility that maybe Waterloo region isn't ready for such a change. Ideally, Light Rail Transit would be introduced to reduce car traffic and the gridlock already occurring on King Street during the rush hours, therefore decreasing carbon emissions as well as creating an uptown Waterloo that wouldn't require the use of a vehicle to live in.

A lot of European cities have up-town areas dedicated only to pedestrians and light rail – no cars. Due to the very obvious fact that our cities are continuously growing at a very high rate, the light rail trains are an excellent solution to taking cars off the road.

When Kitchener-Waterloo built the Conestoga Parkway back in the late 1960s, the internal transit corridor's businesses and employees finally had a chance to connect. Travel was made easier for those wanting to get to work and mobility was increased. The LRT plan includes stops at both shopping centres as well as at the Kitchener Market and Uptown Waterloo area and would be a great way to get across town

The added pedestrian traffic coming off these trains could be a well-needed boost to the Waterloo Region's economy.

quickly and efficiently.

The added pedestrian traffic coming off of these trains could be a well-needed boost to the Waterloo region's economy and would inspire the city to create pedestrian-friendly parts of the city.

Reducing the need for reliance on a car in Waterloo region seems to be an excellent reason to support LRT, because when that need is reduced the opportunity arises to use the spare lane for cyclists, planting more trees or maybe just giving people more room to walk around and enjoy our beautiful city.

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SPORTS

Sports Editor Justin Fauteux • jfauteux@thecord.ca



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER
Laurier's Heather Malizia (4) takes on a Guelph defender during the Hawks' 2-0 victory on Sunday.

Soccer teams move to 3-0

—cover

"We did not show any sort of intensity," said Hawks head coach Mario Halapir. "I thought we were flat today. We were either scared to win, or scared to compete and I have no idea why."

Ultimately, it was criminally poor Gryphon marking that handed rookie midfielder Donald Chmura the goal that turned out to be the game-winner.

A 53rd minute indirect free kick by the Golden Hawks was allowed to bounce inside the Guelph 18-yard box, and Chmura, a Waterloo native, found the ball at his feet.

Unmarked, he fired low short-side giving Guelph goalkeeper Chad Paparoni no chance.

Despite the poor performance, the match did give the Hawks their third win in three games, after downing McMaster 2-1 in an away game on Saturday. Nevertheless, they will need to be sharper in the future as the talent is certainly there.

"We have had a great start as far as points go," said Halapir. "But today [against Guelph] was a step back...we did not execute and we did not compete."

This Saturday, both teams will travel to St. Catharines for fixtures with the Brock Badgers.

They remain on the road on Sunday afternoon, heading to Toronto to take on the York Lions before returning home to Alumni Field on Sept. 22 to face the Western Mustangs.

The women's team currently sits atop the OUA west division standings, two points ahead of the second-place Maruaders. They also occupy the number seven spot in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) top ten.

Meanwhile, the men's undefeated record puts them in second spot, three points back of the Mustangs who have already played four matches. The men's team also claimed tenth spot in the CIS rankings.

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Shane Kelly, QB
19-34, 281 YDS, 1 TD, 1 INT

Stars of the game

Shamawd Chambers, WR
8 REC, 138 YDS, 1 TD



GOLDEN HAWK UPDATE

Week of
September 13 - 19, 2010

RECENT SCORES

09.08.10
M Baseball 18 - Oakville 11

09.11.10
M Football 37 - Toronto 6
M Baseball 2 - Toronto 10
M Baseball 8 - Toronto 3
W Soccer 3 - McMaster 2
M Soccer 2 - McMaster 1

09.12.10
M Baseball 8 - Guelph 9
M Baseball 14 - Guelph 3
M Rugby 8 - Queen's 54
W Rugby 0 - Western 76
W Soccer 2 - Guelph 0
M Soccer 1 - Guelph 0

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

09.15.10
M Rugby vs Brock
University Stadium, 7:30 p.m.

09.17.10
W Rugby vs Brock
University Stadium, 7:30 p.m.

09.19.10
M Baseball vs Brock
Bechtel Park, 1:00 p.m.
M Baseball vs Brock
Bechtel Park, 3:00 p.m.

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Tania Pedron
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Hawks rebound vs. Blues



ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Football team looks to erase 0-2 start after blow-out win over University of Toronto

JUSTIN FAUTEUX
SPORTS EDITOR

After starting their season with a blow-out loss to the Western Mustangs and a heart-breaking defeat at the hands of the McMaster Marauders, the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks men's football team could not have asked for a better opponent than the University of Toronto Varsity Blues for game three.

Coming into the game, the perennially bottom-feeding Blues hadn't beaten the Hawks since 1996 and on Saturday night, the purple and gold continued that trend.

Playing in front of their home fans for the first time this season, the Hawks cruised to a 37-6 win, notching their first victory of the young season.

"Any time you start the season 0-2 and you get that first win, it's really a monkey off your back," said Laurier quarterback Shane Kelly.

"Especially with the way we lost to Western and then the way we lost to McMaster, getting a win just gets everyone back on track and makes us realize that we're a good football team again."

Kelly was making his return to the lineup against the Blues after missing the McMaster game with an injury he sustained versus Western.

However, the injury wasn't the only bad memory Kelly, a native of New Jersey and a former NCAA quarterback, took away from his first game north of the border. In that 46-1 drubbing, Kelly and the Hawks offence looked out of sync and overwhelmed as they struggled to just 157 total yards.

But against Toronto, the crowd at University Stadium was treated to an offensive display worthy of the pre-season hype the Hawks received. Kelly finished with 281 yards and a touchdown pass, but more importantly got the ball into the hands

of his playmakers.

2008 provincial all-star Shamawd Chambers had eight catches for 138 yards and a touchdown. Last year's All-Canadian Dillon Heap racked up seven catches for 77 yards. And second-year running back Anton Bennett rushed for 75 yards and two touchdowns, atoning for his last-minute fumble against Mac.

"This is the team that we saw coming out of camp," said head coach and manager of football operations Gary Jeffries. "This is the team I expected us to be and we're just starting to build. We're not nearly where we want to be now and we're going to continue to get better."

Defensively, the purple and gold smothered the Blues' attack, limiting them to just 147 total yards.

Now with a win under their belts the Hawks will look to put their humbling start firmly in the rear-view mirror. They will now look to

prove that they are capable of being the Yates Cup contender that so many believed them to be prior to the season.

"It's better to peak late than early," said Chambers.

"Some teams are peaking now and I'd rather peak later in the season because that's when it really matters... We've just got to continue to work."

The Hawks now move into a bye week before taking on the York Lions - another perpetually basement dwelling team - at home on Sept. 25. Considering the grueling start the team has had Jeffries believes the bye came at the perfect time.

"The first thing we need is a rest," he said.

"It's been a grind. 12 days of camp, three games in 11 days, in London, in Hamilton, and back here tonight, so we're going to take some time but after that we'll be right back to work, continuing to get better."

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Baseball team splits weekend

Hawks open season at 2-2 after splitting a pair of double-headers with U of T and Guelph

TIEJA MACLAUGHLIN
STAFF WRITER

After finishing 5-1 in pre season action, the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks men's baseball team has opened up their regular season with a set of double headers against the University of Toronto Varsity Blues and the Guelph Gryphons.

The Hawks split both contests at a game a piece giving them a 2-2 record after week one.

"Having four games every weekend makes things a little bit different than what we've had in the past," commented head coach Scott Ballantyne. "We have to have a lot of depth on the mound."

The Varsity Blues visited Bechtel Park for the Hawks' home opener and despite getting almost shut out in game one 10-2, the purple and gold secured an 8-3 victory in game two up against the 2009 Pitcher of the Year, Tyler Wilson.

For Laurier, third-year Steve Zagrodny picked up the win throwing a complete game.

Travelling to Guelph on Sunday, the Gryphons barely took the first game 9-8 but again the Hawks battled back in game two soaring to a 14-3 win.

Third-year Ryan Panas had a combined total of six hits, three RBI and two runs.

"We're happy with the way we hit the ball - we scored 32 runs in four games," said Ballantyne. "We didn't

play as great defensively as we'd like, so there's a few things to work on but I think things are going in the right direction."

For his outstanding performance over the weekend, highly touted rookie centre-fielder Nathan Loehle won both Laurier and Ontario University Athletics (OUA) athlete of the week honours. Loehle went 8 for 17 with nine runs scored, five RBIs and three stolen bases.

"Nathan can play," said Ballantyne. "He's got a lot of tools and he really put that on display this weekend; we know that he's going to be the catalyst of our offense this season."

A product of the Terriers baseball program in Cambridge, Ont. and a member of coach Ballantyne's Junior Intercounty Champion summer squad, the KW Junior Panthers, Loehle has thus far had one of the most dominating rookie campaigns in Laurier baseball history.

The Hawks have a busy weekend ahead, travelling to Western on Friday to take on the reigning OUA Champion Mustangs, who took out the Hawks in two straight games last season to win the title (currently at 3-1 for the season). The Hawks then host an alumni game on Saturday, and finally take on the 4-0 Brock Badgers at home on Sunday.

"Right now our approach is to take it one game at a time; we can't get too far ahead of ourselves," said Ballantyne.



Second-year Robert Lambert (42) awaits the umpire's decision after sliding into second base during one of the Hawks' games against Toronto on Saturday.

ELLI GARLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Athletics to charge students

MARISSA HERNER
CORD SPORTS

T-shirt with a Golden Hawk logo: \$9.99. Admission to a WLU sporting event: \$2-\$5. Team spirit: priceless?

After instituting a five dollar charge for students to attend football games last year, students will now have to pay to attend hockey, basketball and volleyball. In previous years, attending a sporting event cost nothing when one possessed a WLU student card.

"I think games should be free to students because we are there to support our school," said Jamie Stewart, a second-year Environmental Studies student.

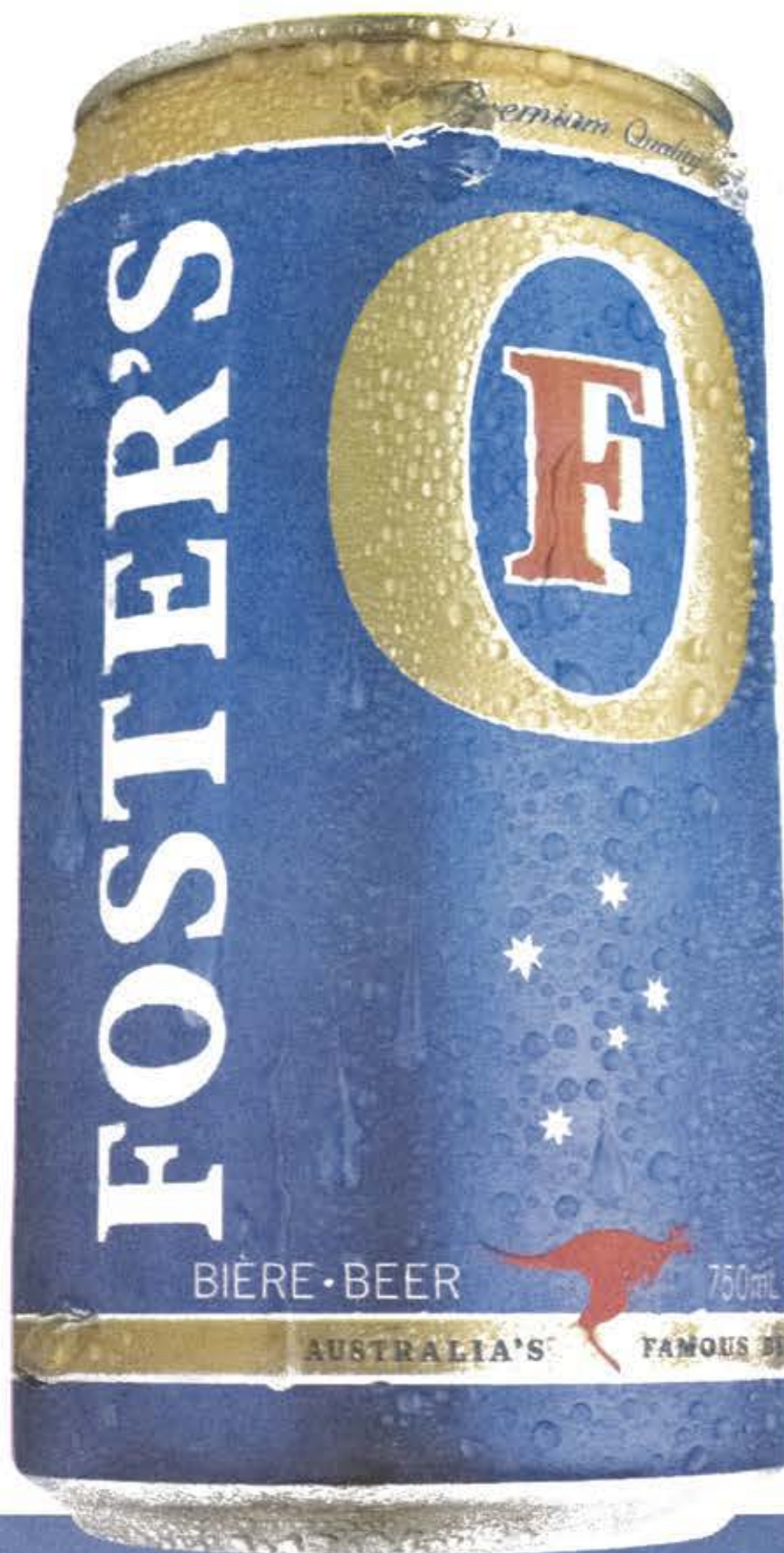
However, Stewart sees the other side of the issue mentioning that, "If there are cutbacks like people losing their jobs or fewer opportunities for students and athletes because of the lack in income from games, then maybe there should be fees."

The question is, with admission fees to games, will students continue going to games?

"Absolutely students will continue to come," he said. "Especially the way the tickets are being marketed, with special offers such as flat-rate yearly passes or homecoming tickets that include a t-shirt along with a ticket for only fifteen dollars."

"It creates different incentives for students to come so that we can drive that spirit and actually get people behind the game."

The ticket revenue will go into funding things such as event staff and travel costs.



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Sports in brief

UW player tests positive for HGH

Last week, a member of the suspended University of Waterloo (UW) football team became the first North American athlete to test positive for Human Growth Hormone (HGH). On Sept. 8, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sports (CCES) announced that running back Matt Socholotiuik had tested positive for HGH and received a three-year ban from Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) competition.

Socholotiuik was among the nine UW players who were caught using performance-enhancing drugs when the CCES tested the entire team in March after a former player was arrested on a trafficking charge.

Hawks shut-out in opener

The Golden Hawks women's rugby opened their season with a 76-0 loss to the Western Mustangs on Sunday afternoon, marking the fifth straight year the team has dropped their first game of the year.

Mustangs' rookie Arielle Dubissette-Borricce led the way in the rout, racking up four tries against an inexperienced Hawks' squad.

Men's Rugby falls to Queen's

Laurier's men's rugby team opened their season at 0-1 on Sunday after a 54-8 defeat at the hands of the Queen's Gaels.

The Hawks are coming off a 4-4 season in 2009, which saw them lose in the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) quarter-finals.

-All Compiled by Justin Fauteux